

Senate Resolution 381

By: Senators James of the 35th and Rhett of the 33rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting that the State Department of Economic Development cooperate with Queen
2 Blessing Itua, Global Empowerment Movement (GEM); and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Senator Donzella James sponsored Senate Resolution 2017 to name Queen
4 Blessing Itua, International Chief Adviser as the Lead Coordinator of African Diaspora Day
5 (ADD) at the Georgia State Capitol; and

6 WHEREAS, Queen Blessing Itua coordinated the African Diaspora Day on March 22, 2016,
7 and 14 African Countries, including Haiti (Cameroon, Congo, Ethiopia, Cote d'Ivoire,
8 Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda,
9 Zambia, and Haiti) participated last year in 2016; and

10 WHEREAS, Queen Blessing Itua intends to coordinate the African Diaspora Day annually
11 at the Georgia State Capitol, and these countries and many other African Countries and Black
12 Communities are expected to participate in the African Diaspora Day at the Georgia State
13 Capitol annually; and

14 WHEREAS, the mission of African Diaspora Day at the Capitol is to promote a good
15 relationship for mutual interest and to urge the Department of Economic Development to
16 promote and strengthen mutually beneficial ties with nations of Africa; and

17 WHEREAS, it is in the economic interest of this state to promote and strengthen mutually
18 beneficial ties with African Diaspora and nations of Africa; and

19 WHEREAS, African Diaspora Day promotes the State of Georgia and the Atlanta area as the
20 gateway for business with Africa and the port of Savannah as the main center for cargo
21 shipment of goods between Africa and the United States; and

22 WHEREAS, continuous development of international partnerships is encouraged to support
23 the emergence of Africa's private sector, promote direct foreign investment in Africa, and
24 leverage the imbalances in Africa's growing economy, develop a partnership with historically
25 black colleges and to promote the relationship with Africa Consulate Generals in Atlanta,
26 Georgia; and

27 WHEREAS, Queen Blessing Itua launches The Blessings of Africa: We Are the Pride of
28 Africa, Enriching and Impacting the Motherland book, Blessings of Africa Empowerment
29 Foundation - Global Empowerment Movement (GEM) Corporation on March 10, 2017, as
30 the platform to facilitate the annual African Diaspora Day at the Georgia State Capitol; and

31 WHEREAS, the Blessings of Africa Empowerment Foundation is an African organization
32 of GEM dedicated to:

33 (1) Bridging the gap between descendants of Africans and to foster personal,
34 professional, and socioeconomic growth of Africans in the Diaspora and in the
35 motherland as well as in Haiti, Jamaica, the Bahamas, and other Afro Caribbean, Afro
36 Latino, and black communities worldwide;

37 (2) Providing the platform for Africans to come together, unite, and step up into
38 leadership roles, beyond showcasing the rich heritage and culture of the African Diaspora
39 via displays of African Music, Arts, Food, Films, Fashion, etc.;

40 (3) Promoting business forums and related networking, job creation, investment
41 opportunities, cultural diversity, tourism, and food; and

42 (4) Empowering the underprivileged, impoverished, voiceless, vulnerable African People
43 In Need (APIN), with a focus on impoverished, economically disadvantaged, abused, and
44 abandoned Single Mothers and Children In Distress (SMACID) in our communities as
45 well as foster the well-being of families, disenfranchised vulnerable women and children
46 plagued by the crimes of forced prostitution, human-spousal trafficking, and domestic
47 spousal abuse.

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
49 request the State Department of Economic Development, to whatever extent authorized by
50 law and subject to available funds, to:

51 (1) Work in collaboration with Queen Blessing Itua, Global Empowerment Movement
52 (GEM), and Blessings of Africa Empowerment Foundation to support, promote,
53 encourage, and facilitate the establishment of the Global Empowerment Movement center
54 (GEM center) - African Empowerment Foundation aimed at Self-Economic
55 Empowerment (SEE) Life Skills empowerment for poverty prevention and intervention,

56 using her "Unlocking the Blessing Code" series to achieving greater wellness, and
57 inspiring them to reach their dreams, fulfill their destinies, and become "the Blessing"
58 that we are created to be;

59 (2) Promote the education and enrichment of African business and professional leaders
60 training of different professionals and other health care professionals;

61 (3) Provide business leaders modern technology in diverse areas: agriculture, health care,
62 and facilities in Africa and Georgia;

63 (4) Facilitate capacity development to train and enrich African legislators and members
64 of parliament about the policy making process in Africa and America; and

65 (5) Facilitate capacity development to train and enrich African skill discovery,
66 development, and deployment as well as women empowerment and youth enrichment.

67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
68 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the commissioner
69 of economic development.