

## Senate Resolution 747

By: Senators Burns of the 23rd, Hickman of the 4th, Anderson of the 24th, Hatchett of the 50th, Robertson of the 29th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the local governments and regional commissions for Regions 5, 7, and 12, the  
2 Department of Community Affairs, and the Department of Transportation to collaborate for  
3 the establishment of a Historic Rural Church Trail; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia contains countless historical sites and geographical regions  
5 that are rich in historic and educational opportunities, particularly so in Regions 5, 7, and 12  
6 located in northeast, east central, and coastal Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, Regions 5, 7, and 12, designated by the Department of Community Affairs,  
8 contain many aspects of Georgia's diverse culture, earliest history, and beautiful rural  
9 landscapes; and

10 WHEREAS, Georgia's unique and diverse history attracts visitors, both internationally  
11 and domestically, to enjoy miles of rural landscapes and hundreds of small towns with  
12 abundant attractions, while providing a readily effective and available tool for spurring  
13 economic development; and

14 WHEREAS, Georgia's historic rural churches, containing a large measure of Georgia's  
15 unique early history, would provide the perfect attraction for potential visitors to these  
16 regions; and

17 WHEREAS, it is important that these designated sites be identified, marketed, promoted, and  
18 managed in order to preserve our heritage and promote future economic growth; and

19 WHEREAS, the designation of historic church sites, while being individually significant,  
20 would provide a strong and lasting impact on historic tourism when joined together as part  
21 of a Historic Rural Church Trail; and

22 WHEREAS, the designation of a regional Historic Rural Church Trail in Regions 5, 7, and  
23 12 would serve to enhance visibility and recognition on local, state, and national levels as  
24 well as provide proof of concept and validation for expansion of the trail across the state into  
25 the other regions.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
27 urge the local governments and regional commissions for Regions 5, 7, and 12, the  
28 Department of Community Affairs, and the Department of Transportation to collaborate for  
29 the establishment of a Historic Rural Church Trail.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
31 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to local governments  
32 and regional commissions for Regions 5, 7, and 12, the Department of Community Affairs,  
33 and the Department of Transportation.