

Senate Resolution 823

By: Senators Tippins of the 37th, Bethel of the 54th, Thompson of the 33rd, Chance of the 16th, Henson of the 41st and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September as Georgians of Great Character Month; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 1909 the Georgia General Assembly along with the executive and judicial
4 branches of government found cause to recognize Georgia by celebrating our state; and

5 WHEREAS, the students, teachers, and parents of Durham Middle School feel strongly that
6 celebrating Georgians of Great Character Month in September of each year, which is the time
7 that Georgia public schools teach Georgians of Great Character in all 4th and 8th grade
8 classes, will enhance our students' appreciation of history and will offer an opportunity for
9 educators to focus on character education; and

10 WHEREAS, Durham Middle School students Beth Ann Shires and Ryan Mulkey and
11 teachers Thomas Panter and Mandy Martin advocate that during Georgians of Great
12 Character Month, Georgia should take time to celebrate the lives of those who have made
13 this state great by showing exemplary character during tumultuous times; and

14 WHEREAS, James Oglethorpe demonstrated the core character values that all Georgians
15 should strive to achieve throughout life; and

16 WHEREAS, Georgians of Great Character Month should not be just a mere month of
17 observance in schools, but a time for students throughout the state learn life lessons of core
18 values and character such as fairness, perseverance, moral and physical courage,
19 trustworthiness, compassion, respect, humility, and integrity; and

20 WHEREAS, Georgians of Great Character Month should be a month for students to bridge
21 values in history with their own daily lives; and

22 WHEREAS, establishing Georgians of Great Character Month will help Georgia's character
23 and education programs to become more effective in each community; and

24 WHEREAS, it is the intent of the members of this body that teachers and students work with
25 such organizations as the Georgia Historical Society to celebrate Georgians of Great
26 Character and to coordinate with such society to celebrate the Georgia History Festival in
27 February of each year; and

28 WHEREAS, Georgians of Great Character Month will result in a leading effort to educate
29 and inform Georgia students about state history and character education.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
31 recognize September of each year as Georgians of Great Character Month.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to GPTV, the Georgia Historical Society,
34 Beth Ann Shires, Ryan Mulkey, Thomas Panter, and Mandy Martin.