

Senate Resolution 849

By: Senator Wilkinson of the 50th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the great achievements of Leadership Toccoa-Stephens County Inc. and  
2 recognizing February 27, 2020, as Toccoa-Stephens County Day at the state capitol; and for  
3 other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the City of Toccoa was established in 1874, and Stephens County was created  
5 in 1905; and

6 WHEREAS, the City of Toccoa and Stephens County have been recognized for numerous  
7 awards and accolades over the years, including the Live, Work, Play Award from Georgia  
8 Trend and the Georgia Municipal Association and the Impact Award from the National  
9 Association of Development Organizations; and

10 WHEREAS, the Toccoa-Stephens County Chamber of Commerce was designated with a 4  
11 Star accreditation by the United States Chamber of Commerce and is committed to serving  
12 as an advocate for local businesses, a community partner, and an economic growth generator;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the Toccoa-Stephens community has been awarded camera-ready distinction,  
15 with seven films produced thus far; and

16 WHEREAS, the mission of the Toccoa-Stephens County Development Authority is to  
17 encourage and support the expansion and development of industrial and commercial facilities  
18 in Stephens County in order to promote employment, having been recognized by the Georgia  
19 Economic Developers Association 2015 Deal of the Year; and

20 WHEREAS, Stephens County School System has invested in their cutting edge work based  
21 learning program and state-of-the-art CTAE facility to provide students the education and  
22 skill set to best equip them for their future; and

23 WHEREAS, Stephens County Hospital and their physicians group, the Northeast Georgia  
24 Physicians Group, local cancer treatment and dialysis centers are dedicated to compassion  
25 and excellence in health care; and

26 WHEREAS, the area is rich with agriculture and natural beauty including Toccoa Falls, Lake  
27 Hartwell, Currahee Mountain, and Broad River. Toccoa-Stephens County is rooted in history  
28 and home to attractions such as the Currahee Military Museum, dedicated to preserving the  
29 heritage of WWII, and a historic downtown, rich in the arts with the Toccoa Symphony,  
30 Currahee Artist Guild, and the Historic Ritz Theatre. The City of Toccoa was awarded the  
31 Georgia Exceptional Main Street for its arts, events, and sense of community; and

32 WHEREAS, incredible leaders call Toccoa-Stephens County home, including Chairman of  
33 the Stephens County Commission, Dennis Bell; Mayor of Toccoa, Terry Carter; School  
34 Superintendent, Daniel Oldham; Stephens County Hospital CEO, Michael Hester; Executive  
35 Director of the Stephens County Development Authority, Tim Martin; President of the  
36 Toccoa-Stephens County Chamber of Commerce, Julie Paysen; and Georgia Senator, John  
37 Wilkinson; and

38 WHEREAS, Toccoa-Stephens County supports economic growth for this state and has an  
39 incredible history and rich traditions.

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
41 commend the great achievements of Leadership Toccoa-Stephens County Inc. and recognize  
42 February 27, 2020, as Toccoa-Stephens County Day at the state capitol.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
44 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the  
45 press.