

Senate Resolution 856

By: Senators Brass of the 28th and Rhett of the 33rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association for the development of
2 the Best Management Practices for Georgia Golf Courses; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the development of the Best Management Practices for Georgia Golf Courses
4 was made possible by superintendents in the State of Georgia, the Georgia Golf Course
5 Superintendents Association, and turfgrass scientists at the University of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, Georgia's nearly 400 golf courses are, on average, 96 percent recreational open
7 spaces of grasslands, woods, or water bodies; these lands are functionally excellent at
8 harvesting and storing water that falls on them, eliminating or reducing erosion, sequestering
9 carbon and nitrogen, and improving the physical properties of soils; and

10 WHEREAS, these green spaces are biologically diverse habitats for plants and animals,
11 ranging from large native species to soil microorganisms, and are important for noise
12 abatement and cooling the atmosphere; and

13 WHEREAS, today's superintendents draw on more environmental science than any
14 generation before them; their training included biological sciences, chemistry, horticulture,
15 soils, environmental sciences, and many related disciplines, uniquely qualifying them for
16 their duties; and

17 WHEREAS, carefully adopted best management practices can potentially improve the
18 financial sustainability of golf courses, as well as environmental sustainability; these methods
19 and techniques are found to be the most effective and practical means of achieving an
20 objective, such as preventing water quality impacts or reducing pesticide usage; and

21 WHEREAS, pesticide best management practices provide the necessary guidance for the
22 proper transport, storing, mixing, and application of pesticides to address target pests and
23 minimize impacts to nontarget species; design and construction best management practices

24 and storm-water best management practices address the potential for erosion and
25 sedimentation and ways to mitigate that potential; and

26 WHEREAS, the design and maintenance of irrigation systems, as well as proper irrigation
27 scheduling, careful selection of turfgrass cultivars, and incorporation of cultural practices that
28 increase the water-holding capacity of soil, are addressed through these best management
29 practices.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
31 commend the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association for the development of the
32 Best Management Practices for Georgia Golf Courses.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
34 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia Golf
35 Course Superintendents Association.