

House Resolution 644

By: Representatives Benton of the 31st, Werkheiser of the 157th, Powell of the 32nd, Tarvin of the 2nd, and Petrea of the 166th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing April as Confederate History Month and April 26, 2017, as Confederate
2 Memorial Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, April is the month in which the Confederate States of America began and ended
4 a four-year struggle for states' rights, individual freedom, and local governmental control,
5 which they believed to be right and just; and

6 WHEREAS, Confederate Memorial Day on April 26th is a time when Georgians honor the
7 more than 90,000 brave men and women who served the Confederate States of America; and

8 WHEREAS, Georgia joined the Confederacy after the convention ratified the Ordinance of
9 Secession in January, 1861, and Georgia has long cherished her Confederate history and the
10 people who made sacrifices on her behalf; and

11 WHEREAS, one of the many Confederate soldiers who made a significant contribution to
12 the state was Dr. John Stith Pemberton, who rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the
13 12th (Robinson's) Regiment Georgia Cavalry, State Guards, and was wounded at the Battle
14 of Columbus on April 16, 1865; and

15 WHEREAS, after the war, Dr. Pemberton went on to develop what we know today as
16 Coca-Cola, and his efforts aided significantly in the economic and cultural development of
17 the City of Atlanta as well as the State of Georgia; and

18 WHEREAS, it is important that Georgians reflect upon our state's past and honor and respect
19 the devotion of her Confederate leaders, soldiers, sailors, Marines, and citizens.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body recognize April as Confederate History Month and April 26, 2017,

22 as Confederate Memorial Day at the state capitol and encourage our citizens to learn about
23 Georgia's heritage and history and to observe the occasion with appropriate ceremonies.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
25 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
26 public and the press.