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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES.

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Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge is a vital part of the ecology of Georgia and should be inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage Site list.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CARTER of Georgia submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge is a vital part of the ecology of Georgia and should be inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage Site list.

Whereas the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge is a wetland that protects over 400,000 acres in south Georgia on the border with Florida;

Whereas the Okefenokee has been inhabited since 2500 B.C.;

Whereas, in 1936, it was designated the Okefenokee by the Department of the Interior;

Whereas the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge sees over 400,000 visitors a year, playing a vital role in the economy of south Georgia;

Whereas, according to a United States Fish and Wildlife Service report authored in 2019, the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge created \$64,700,000 in revenue for the local economies;

Whereas there are hundreds of different animal species that inhabit the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, including endangered species such as the indigo snake and the red-cockaded woodpecker;

Whereas the Okefenokee has been on the U.S. World Heritage Tentative List since 2007 but has yet to be inscribed permanently; and

Whereas the Okefenokee holds significant historical, cultural, and ecological benefit to the States of Florida and Georgia: Now, therefore, be it

- 1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives supports
- 2 the nomination of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Ref-
- 3 uge as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.