

House of Representatives

House Resolution 379

By: Representatives McCall of the 33rd, Channell of the 120th, and Fleming of the 121st

A RESOLUTION

Commending the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association for its efforts to preserve and protect the land where the Battle of Kettle Creek was fought, promote awareness of the battle's importance in American history, and recognize the heroic actions of free and enslaved colonists of Wilkes County in support of American independence; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, the Battle of Kettle Creek, a military engagement that proved to be of significant importance to American colonists fighting for their independence from England, occurred in Wilkes County, Georgia, on February 14, 1779; and

WHEREAS, in the early years of the American Revolution, British and Loyalist troops controlled virtually all of colonial Georgia, including the coastal region, Savannah, and Augusta, and Georgia's revolutionary government was in disarray; and

WHEREAS, in early 1779 British Col. James Boyd assembled a force of 600 Loyalist Americans in North and South Carolina to invade Wilkes County in a grand scheme to rally colonists there to join the British cause and produce a counter-American revolution; and

WHEREAS, by February 14, 1779, Col. Boyd's force had entered Georgia, crossed through Wilkes County, and encamped at Kettle Creek, near the present-day city of Washington, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, a militia of some 340 South Carolina and Wilkes County, Georgia patriots, led by Col. Andrew Pickens, Col. John Dooley, and Lt. Col. Elijah Clarke, launched a surprise attack on the British force that day at Kettle Creek, killing 20 of the Loyalists and Col. Boyd, and utterly routing the British force; and

WHEREAS, the Battle of Kettle Creek was Georgia's most memorable and significant victory against Great Britain during the American Revolution and established beyond doubt that the colonists of Wilkes County firmly supported and were willing to fight for American independence; and

WHEREAS, the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association seeks to preserve and protect the land where the battle was fought and develop it into a permanent memorial so that Georgians and Americans might understand and better appreciate the significance of the battle and the valor and sacrifices of their colonial forbears.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that the members of this body recognize and commend the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association for its ongoing efforts to preserve, protect, and develop one of the few Revolutionary War sites in Georgia still in its pristine condition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association.

IN HOUSE
Read and Adopted
February 14, 2013


Robert E. Rivers, Jr.
Clerk

