

**ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF  
GEORGIA 1997**

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TRAIL OF TEARS HIGHWAY — DESIGNATED.

No. 63 (House Resolution No. 324).

A RESOLUTION

Designating the Trail of Tears Highway; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation once stretched across North Georgia, a thriving advanced civilization of literate farmers, merchants, and professionals with its capital at New Echota in what is now Gordon County, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, New Echota was converted from the capital of a nation to a holding pen for the human inhabitants of that nation as they were rounded up and corralled like cattle to embark on one of the most sordid chapters in our state's history, the forced migration of the Cherokee people from their native Southeastern foothills and mountains to Oklahoma, an event that lives in infamy as the Trail of Tears; and

WHEREAS, the farms and homes left behind by these peaceful people were taken over by Caucasian settlers even as their elderly, young, and sick were dying beside the trail during what was euphemistically called a "relocation" by those in power at the time; and

WHEREAS, today, State Route 225 extends from the New Echota Historic Site and the Chief Vann House State Historic Site to the Georgia-Tennessee state line to the closest point to the eastern terminus of the National Park Service's Trail of Tears National Historic Trail near Charleston, Tennessee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY that that portion of State Route 225 from its intersection with Interstate 75 northward to the Tennessee state line is designated the Trail of Tears Highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commissioner of Transportation is authorized and directed to place appropriate signs for such designation.

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 press and the public.

**Approval Date:** Approved April 29, 1997.