

**Business Executives
for National Security**

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SOUTHEAST ADVISORY

To: BENS Southeast Members
Subject: BENS Georgia Business Force Recognized by the Georgia General Assembly

Atlanta, 4/1/09: The Georgia House of Representatives formally commended BENS and the Georgia Business Force for outstanding contributions made over the past five years in leading the private-public partnership for homeland security in the State of Georgia.

Representative Burke Day, Chairman of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee, presented House Resolution 658 to the eighteen BENS members in the Southeast Region who support the Georgia Business Force.

The Georgia Business Force was created in response to the 2003 agreement between BENS' CEO, Chuck Boyd and Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue to develop an effective public-business community partnership to bring a private sector perspective to the government's effort to plan for and respond to natural and man-made disasters and other emergencies.

Chairman Day said, "This is a real success story in engaging the private sector in furthering the security of both the citizens and business community throughout the state." He gave specific examples Georgia Business Force involvement in disaster and pandemic planning, exercises, and disaster response work with the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Office of Homeland Security, and the Georgia Division of Public Health.

The accomplishments of the Georgia Business Force serve as a national model for public-private collaboration.

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 Pictured: (Left) Copy of the Resolution, (Right) (L to R) are Charley English, Director, Georgia Emergency Management Agency; Representative Burke Day, Georgia General Assembly; and (accepting the Resolution on behalf of the Georgia Business Force) Ed Gogol, Managing Director, Presidio, Inc.

