

2003 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 19

1 **Relating to:** celebrating March 25, 2003, as the 182nd Anniversary of Greek
2 Independence.

3 Whereas, on March 25, 1821, the Greek nation began its fight for independence
4 and waged a successful War of Independence (1821–1829) and reinstated a
5 democratic form of government; and

6 Whereas, it was Greece that first ignited the flame of freedom and is still known
7 as the “Cradle of Democracy” by, during the 6th and 5th centuries B.C. in Athens,
8 introducing to the world the idea of direct representative government, thus ushering
9 in a Golden Age of art, architecture, philosophy, and drama under such giants of
10 Western history as Pericles, Sophocles, Euripides, Socrates, and Plato; and

11 Whereas, a legacy of the Greek democratic ideal is the hope that it has always
12 inspired in oppressed people throughout the history of the world, including the
13 founding leaders of the United States of America who drew heavily on the democratic
14 principles, political experience, and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our
15 representative form of government; and

