

House Resolution 861

By: Representative Pelote of the 149th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Savannah citizens and members of the police force who heroically rescued
2 a family from a residential fire; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on Saturday, January 5, 2002, a residential fire threatened the lives of a
4 Savannah couple and their wheelchair-bound daughter late in the evening; and

5 WHEREAS, a courageous neighbor in the Carver Heights district, Stephan Ling, spotted the
6 fire while driving home around 10:45 PM and raced to back door of the residence since the
7 front section of the two story home was already engulfed in flames and he knew the couple
8 and the limitations of their daughter; and

9 WHEREAS, with the help of neighbor Dwayne J. Holmes the padlocked fence was torn
10 away and the rear entrance kicked open amidst tormenting cries for help from the family
11 members trapped inside; and

12 WHEREAS, Savannah police officers, Russell Wilson, George Gundich, Cary Hill, Kenneth
13 Whitcomb, Rich Reale, Shawn Kinzer, along with Community Service Specialist Addie
14 Beasley were summoned to engage in rescue efforts at this burning home; and

15 WHEREAS, the superior coordination of personnel and equipment and the exceptional skill
16 and ability of these police officers and citizens enabled the family to be rescued but not
17 without serious injuries to the family members; and

18 WHEREAS, the extraordinary courage and heroic action of these officers and citizens reflect
19 their deep sense of duty, citizenship, and good will and merit recognition and high honor.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 this body recognizes and commends the named citizens and police officers in the City of
22 Savannah who so bravely responded to the Carver Heights fire on January 5, 2002.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- 2 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to each of the named citizens
- 3 and Savannah police officers.