

Senate Resolution 501

By: Senator Hill of the 4th

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Ranger First Class George Tharpe and Ranger First Class Darrell Watson as
2 the Peace Officers of the Year for Meritorious Service; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Ranger First Class George Tharpe and Ranger First Class Darrell Watson were
4 selected by the Peace Officers' Association of Georgia to receive the Arthur Hutchins Award
5 for Meritorious Service; and

6 WHEREAS, on April 24, 2001, Corporal Leon Tucker, Ranger First Class George Tharpe,
7 and Ranger First Class Darrell Watson of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources were
8 working together on a detail when Corporal Tucker was shot by a turkey hunter; and

9 WHEREAS, Rangers Tharpe and Watson called for help, but rapidly became aware that
10 immediate action was imperative because of Corporal Tucker's tremendous loss of blood;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, they took complete control of the situation by commandeering the shooter's
13 vehicle and rushing Corporal Tucker toward the hospital, meeting the ambulance on the way;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, because of the heavy loss of blood, both emergency medical technicians in the
16 ambulance worked to save Corporal Tucker, while Ranger Tharpe drove the ambulance; and

17 WHEREAS, their immediate assessment of the situation and their rapid response were
18 instrumental in saving Corporal Tucker's life; and

19 WHEREAS, their determination and character have been reflected in their professional
20 performance throughout their careers with the Department of Natural Resources, and their
21 high standards of conduct have served as models for their peers.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
2 recognize and commend Ranger First Class George Tharpe and Ranger First Class Darrell
3 Watson as the recipients of the Peace Officers' Association of Georgia 2001 Peace Officers
4 of the Year Award for Meritorious Service.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
6 to transmit an appropriate copies of this resolution to Ranger First Class George Tharpe and
7 Ranger First Class Darrell Watson.