

Senate Resolution 261

By: Senators Burton of the 5th, Blitch of the 7th, Thomas of the 10th, Ragan of the 11th, Meyer von Bremen of the 12th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia to consider the granting
2 of foreign language credit to those students who demonstrate proficiency in American Sign
3 Language; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, over 400,000 Georgians are deaf or hard of hearing, and there is an increasing
5 need for communication between hearing Georgians and Georgians who are deaf; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1992, the General Assembly enacted Code Section 20-2-151.1 which
7 provides for the acceptance of demonstrated proficiency in American Sign Language for the
8 purpose of fulfilling the foreign language requirements for a college preparatory curriculum
9 seal of endorsement on a high school diploma and for the purpose of earning Carnegie unit
10 curriculum credits; and

11 WHEREAS, every effort should be made to encourage proficiency in American Sign
12 Language and to recognize those who become proficient; and

13 WHEREAS, the colleges and universities in the state perform an outstanding service in
14 educating teachers and other professionals who should be able to communicate with deaf or
15 hard of hearing citizens.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
17 GEORGIA that the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia is urged to
18 consider the granting of foreign language credit to those students who demonstrate
19 proficiency in American Sign Language.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
21 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Board of Regents of the University
22 System of Georgia.