

Senate Resolution 863

By: Senators Unterman of the 45th, Bulloch of the 11th, Tate of the 38th, Mullis of the 53rd, Reed of the 35th and others

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and the Department of
2 Education to work together to find incentives and create avenues to encourage student
3 participation as poll workers; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, many Georgia counties have stated the difficulty of finding the needed number
5 of poll workers on election day; and

6 WHEREAS, several general bills proposing legislation to address the lack of poll workers
7 in certain geographic regions have been introduced in the General Assembly validating that
8 a problem finding poll workers exists; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2001, the General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 213 which was approved
10 by the Governor on April 18, 2001 (Act No. 166; Ga. L. 2001, p. 269), which called for the
11 Twenty-first Century Voting Commission to work with the Board of Regents of the
12 University System of Georgia and the Department of Education to increase student
13 participation as poll workers or in other areas of the election process; and

14 WHEREAS, there has been no program established nor any attempt to formulate a program
15 by the Board of Regents or the Department of Education to increase student participation in
16 the election process in the three years since the bill's enactment; and

17 WHEREAS, the educational benefits to the students are many if students participate in the
18 election process as poll workers or in another capacity; and

19 WHEREAS, certain precinct level changes to the election procedures have been stymied
20 partly due to concerns as to whether poll workers could handle the additional workload.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the Board of Regents of
22 the University System of Georgia and the Department of Education are urged to work

1 together to craft policies that will increase student participation as poll workers or in other
2 areas of the election process.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
4 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to each member of the Board of Regents
5 of the University System of Georgia and the State Board of Education.