

Senate Resolution 14

By: Senators Smith of the 52nd, Hill of the 32nd, Mullis of the 53rd, Hudgens of the 47th, Tolleson of the 20th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing the sympathy for the victims of the powerful earthquake and devastating tsunami
2 that struck Bangladesh, Burma, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, the Maldives, the
3 Seychelles, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, and other areas of Southeast Asia, South
4 Asia, and Africa on December 26, 2004; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS on December 26, 2004, a tremendous earthquake, registered at 9.0 on the
6 Richter scale and centered 100 miles off the coast of Northern Sumatra, Indonesia, triggered
7 a deadly tsunami that swept through the Indian Ocean, devastating cities, towns, and
8 communities and killing or injuring persons in Southeast Asia and South Asia, the island
9 nations of the region, and East Africa; and

10 WHEREAS, as a result of the earthquake and ensuing tsunami, more than 150,000 people
11 have lost their lives to date and tens of thousands of people are injured or missing; and

12 WHEREAS, the victims also include thousands of persons who were visiting the region
13 when the tsunami hit, including significant numbers from Europe and North and South
14 America; and

15 WHEREAS, millions of people throughout Southeast Asia and South Asia have been left
16 without food, shelter, or clean water and now face deadly diseases such as cholera, dengue
17 fever, dysentery, malaria, and typhoid; and

18 WHEREAS, thousands of children have been killed or injured by this disaster and thousands
19 of children have been separated from their families or orphaned and are in need of
20 reunification or adoption; and

21 WHEREAS, whole coastal communities and cities throughout the region were obliterated,
22 and recovery, reconstruction, and clean-up of the devastated areas likely will take years and
23 billions of dollars; and

1 WHEREAS, the United States government and other countries have joined together to
2 provide relief funds, equipment, personnel, and supplies to aid this region and have been
3 joined with other nongovernmental agencies to attempt to alleviate the suffering and
4 reconstruct and clean up this region; and

5 WHEREAS, much more funding and volunteers are needed to assist in this effort.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
7 express their heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the powerful earthquake and devastating
8 tsunami that struck cities, towns, and communities throughout Southeast Asia, South Asia,
9 and East Africa on December 26, 2004, and convey their most sincere condolences to the
10 families, communities, and governments of the more than 150,000 people that lost their lives
11 in this terrible natural disaster.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body express their gratitude and
13 respect for the courageous and committed work of all aid and relief personnel, including
14 United States military personnel, who are saving lives and providing relief assistance in the
15 devastated areas of the region and commend the ongoing international relief effort that
16 includes the work of individual countries, numerous international organizations, and various
17 relief and other nongovernmental entities.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body encourage private donations
19 and assistance from Georgia citizens, charitable organizations, religious groups, and
20 corporations that routinely provide generous and significant amounts of aid, support, and
21 volunteers to assist in the relief of this region that has been so terribly impacted by the
22 powerful earthquake and the devastating tsunami.