

## Senate Resolution 667

By: Senator Meyer von Bremen of the 12th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Youth Becoming Healthy Project, Inc.; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Youth Becoming Healthy (YBH) Project, Inc. was created by Pamela  
3 Green-Jackson in memory of her brother, Bernard Green, who died in February, 2004 from  
4 the effects of obesity-related illnesses; and

5 WHEREAS, YBH is a nonprofit organization committed to enriching the quality of life for  
6 youth and their families through nutrition and fitness education; and

7 WHEREAS, YBH's mission is to reduce the epidemic of childhood obesity in middle school  
8 students through a variety of nutrition and fitness programs; and

9 WHEREAS, Youth Becoming Healthy is a program designed to remove all barriers to  
10 increased physical activity in middle school students and their families caused by lack of  
11 education about health risks in making unhealthy choices, unsafe neighborhoods that prevent  
12 children from playing outside, and lack of neighborhood sidewalks; and

13 WHEREAS, over 33 percent of middle school students in Georgia are overweight, and  
14 Georgia ranks as the sixth highest obese state in the United States with medical costs  
15 exceeding \$2.1 billion; and

16 WHEREAS, over 6,700 Georgians died last year from obesity-related illnesses; and

17 WHEREAS, YBH Project addresses this issue with students in their daily school  
18 environments with funding from local businesses and individuals placing fitness centers in  
19 six middle schools in Dougherty County; and

20 WHEREAS, cafeteria managers are being asked to change their menus and provide healthier  
21 choices such as salads, baked foods, and vegetables; and

1 WHEREAS, a successful campaign to remove unhealthy items from vending machines was  
2 implemented last school term; and

3 WHEREAS, YBH is now an integral component of the federally mandated school wellness  
4 policy in Dougherty County Schools; and

5 WHEREAS, YBH Fitness Centers are cosponsored corporately by Merck, Palmyra Medical  
6 Centers, P&G, Phoebe Community Visions, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia, and  
7 AstraZeneca; and

8 WHEREAS, many other community partners and physicians are stepping forward to offer  
9 their support both financially and in-kind to help curtail the tremendous epidemic of  
10 childhood obesity in the community; and

11 WHEREAS, YBH Project firmly believes that through education, incentives, and fitness  
12 alternatives, the number of overweight and obese children will decrease, thereby greatly  
13 enhancing the lives of these children, their families, and their communities.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
15 commend and recognize the tremendous importance of Youth Becoming Healthy Project and  
16 wish Pamela Green-Jackson and the organization continued success.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
18 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Pamela Green-Jackson.