

Senate Resolution 758

By: Senators Hill of the 4th, Murphy of the 27th, Goggans of the 7th, Douglas of the 17th and Heath of the 31st

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Captain Kelly McLendon of the Polk County Sheriff's Office;
- 2 and for other purposes.

- 3 WHEREAS, Captain Kelly McLendon is a member of the Polk County Sheriff's Office and
- 4 the Georgia Governor's Task Force for Drug Suppression; and

- 5 WHEREAS, on June 5, 2007, Captain McLendon, Corporal David Doebla, and retired
- 6 Corporal Joe Wayne Zabeau were conducting a routine aerial drug patrol of an area of Polk
- 7 County when the helicopter in which they were traveling went out of control and crashed;
- 8 and

- 9 WHEREAS, injured himself, Captain McLendon was able to free himself and establish
- 10 communication with the ground team to inform them of the crash location; and

- 11 WHEREAS, Captain McLendon returned to the aircraft to assist pilot Corporal Doebla and
- 12 Corporal Zabeau; and

- 13 WHEREAS, making certain Corporal Doebla was safely away from the crash, Captain
- 14 McLendon returned to the crashed helicopter, which had caught fire, and cut unconscious
- 15 Corporal Zabeau out of his seatbelt and pulled him to safety shortly before the helicopter
- 16 became engulfed in flames; and

- 17 WHEREAS, Captain McLendon's quick actions without hesitation and without regard for
- 18 his own personal safety, as well as saving the lives of two other officers, brings honor to
- 19 himself, the Polk County Sheriff's Office, and the State of Georgia; and

- 20 WHEREAS, due to his actions, Captain McLendon has been nominated for the "Earl
- 21 Hamrick Award for Valor" sponsored by the Peace Officers Association of Georgia.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
2 hereby recognize Captain Kelly McLendon and commend him for his courageous and
3 exemplary actions in saving the lives of two fellow officers.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
5 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Captain Kelly McLendon.