

Senate Resolution 38

By: Senators Unterman of the 45th, Carter of the 1st and Goggans of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending LifeSouth Community Blood Centers; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is the eighth largest blood provider in the
3 United States, collecting and supplying blood for more than 110 medical facilities in
4 Alabama, Florida, and Georgia; and
- 5 WHEREAS, a nonprofit organization, LifeSouth's mission is to provide a safe blood supply
6 that meets or exceeds the needs of local communities and provide patients with services in
7 support of blood and transfusion related activities; and
- 8 WHEREAS, sickle cell disease affects an estimated 70,000 to 100,000 Americans, and the
9 sickle cell trait occurs in about one in 12 African Americans; and
- 10 WHEREAS, the life expectancy of an individual with sickle cell disease is approximately 40
11 years, and those living with the disease may require blood transfusions every four weeks over
12 their lifetime; and
- 13 WHEREAS, blood transfusions increase the number of good red blood cells in the blood
14 stream and are the best treatment to alleviate the effects of sickle cell disease; and
- 15 WHEREAS, in an effort to mitigate some of the complications due to numerous blood
16 transfusions during the life of a sickle cell patient, LifeSouth has developed the Sickle Cell
17 Hero Program, which is designed to match sickle cell patients with specific donors through
18 a comprehensive blood matching system; and
- 19 WHEREAS, the Sickle Cell Hero Program is part of a larger initiative of the Five Points of
20 Life Foundation, which educates and raises awareness of the five ways to share life with
21 others through the donation of blood, apheresis, marrow, cord blood, and organ and tissue;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, LifeSouth works diligently to remind Americans that January is National Blood
24 Donor Month, encouraging people to give the life-saving and selfless gift of blood that is
25 vital to each and every community; and

26 WHEREAS, the dedication to improving the lives of Georgians consistently demonstrated
27 by this outstanding corporate citizen is worthy of recognition.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 commend LifeSouth Community Blood Centers for its commitment to helping those living
30 with sickle cell disease through its Sickle Cell Hero Program.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
32 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to LifeSouth Community Blood Centers.