

Senate Resolution 131

By: Senator Butterworth of the 50th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing October as RSV Awareness Month; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a common respiratory disease that affects
3 approximately two-thirds of all infants during the first year of life and almost 100 percent of
4 babies before the age of two; and
- 5 WHEREAS, RSV is the most common cause of lower respiratory infection and viral death
6 in children under five years old; and
- 7 WHEREAS, RSV is a leading cause of pneumonia and bronchitis, and in 2008, these ailments
8 were the cause of more than 18,000 emergency room visits for children under the age of 12
9 in Georgia; and
- 10 WHEREAS, RSV is the cause of over 402,000 hospital outpatient visits and 1.7 million
11 doctor's office visits annually nationwide; and
- 12 WHEREAS, an estimated 125,000 babies in the United States are hospitalized each year with
13 severe RSV, the leading cause of infant hospitalization; and
- 14 WHEREAS, severe RSV hospitalization may cause up to 500 infant deaths annually
15 nationwide and, on average, ten times more infants die from RSV than from the flu each
16 year; and
- 17 WHEREAS, medical costs associated with RSV disease have been estimated as a burden to
18 the health care system, as well as individual patients, with the ambulatory medical care cost
19 attributed to RSV infection related illness estimated at \$258 million annually.
- 20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
21 recognize October as RSV Awareness Month in Georgia.

- 22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
23 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Zoe Rose Memorial Foundation.