

The Senate Education and Youth Committee offered the following substitute to SR 590:

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Georgia Department of Education to implement cardiopulmonary resuscitation
2 (CPR) classes and the implementation of automated external defibrillators in the public
3 schools of this state; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, as early as 1740, the Paris Academy of Sciences officially recommended
5 mouth-to-mouth resuscitation for drowning victims; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1891, Dr. Friedrich Maass performed the first unequivocally documented
7 chest compression in humans, and, in 1903, Dr. George Crile reported the first successful use
8 of external chest compressions in human resuscitation; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1957, the United States military adopted the mouth-to-mouth resuscitation
10 method to revive unresponsive victims; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1960, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) was developed, and the
12 American Heart Association started a program to acquaint physicians with closed-chest
13 cardiac resuscitation and became the forerunner of CPR training for the general public; and

14 WHEREAS, emergency medical services personnel treat about 300,000 victims of
15 out-of-hospital cardiac arrest each year in the United States, and less than 8 percent of people
16 who suffer cardiac arrest outside the hospital survive; and

17 WHEREAS, sudden cardiac arrest can happen to anyone at any time, and many victims
18 appear healthy with no known heart disease or other risk factors; and

19 WHEREAS, about 5,900 children 18 years old and under suffer out-of-hospital cardiac arrest
20 each year from all causes, including trauma, cardiovascular causes, and sudden infant death
21 syndrome; and

22 WHEREAS, the incidence of out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest in high school athletes
23 ranges from .28 to 1 death per 100,000 high school athletes annually in the United States; and

24 WHEREAS, the American Heart Association does not have a minimum age requirement for
25 people to learn CPR since the ability to perform CPR is based more on body strength rather
26 than age; and

27 WHEREAS, studies have shown that children as young as nine years old can learn and retain
28 CPR skills; and

29 WHEREAS, effective bystander CPR, provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest, can
30 double or triple a victim's chance of survival.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 urge the Georgia Department of Education to implement cardiopulmonary resuscitation
33 (CPR) classes and the implementation of automated external defibrillators in the public
34 schools of this state.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to send a copy of this resolution to the Georgia Department of Education.