

Senate Resolution 999

By: Senators James of the 35th, Orrock of the 36th, Davenport of the 44th, Paris of the 26th, Fort of the 39th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Urging the State Board of Education to provide for a course of instruction or incorporate into
2 current curriculum rape prevention and personal safety education programs for students in
3 grades nine through 12 to help stop teen dating violence; and for other purposes.
- 4 WHEREAS, dating violence has become a prevalent problem in high schools throughout our
5 state, with one in three teens experiencing some kind of abuse in their romantic relationships;
6 and
- 7 WHEREAS, girls between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate
8 partner violence, and of the young people murdered each year between the ages of 15 to 19,
9 30 percent are killed by their boyfriend or husband; and
- 10 WHEREAS, teen dating violence does not discriminate and occurs in all high schools across
11 this state, regardless of the socioeconomic level or primary race of the school; and
- 12 WHEREAS, young teens need to learn about and be made aware of the many issues
13 surrounding dating violence, including the signs, causes, and ways of preventing teen dating
14 violence; and
- 15 WHEREAS, current curriculum for students should include a teen dating violence and abuse
16 component that includes, but is not limited to, the definition of dating violence and abuse,
17 the warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior, the characteristics of healthy
18 relationships, measures to prevent and stop dating violence and abuse, and community
19 resources available to victims of dating violence and abuse; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Georgia's children should be given an opportunity to prevent teen dating
21 violence and possibly save young lives.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
23 urge the State Board of Education to provide for a course of instruction or incorporate into
24 current curriculum rape prevention and personal safety education programs to help stop teen
25 dating violence for students in grades nine through 12.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
27 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the State School Superintendent, the
28 State Board of Education, and the Governor.