

Senate Resolution 1118

By: Senator Ginn of the 47th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Officer Courtney Gale; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Officer Courtney Gale is back on the job with the Athens-Clarke Police  
3 Department, four years, two months, and nine days after she nearly died from a brutal  
4 stabbing; and

5 WHEREAS, Officer Gale found her calling while minoring in criminal justice and went  
6 straight to the police training academy as an Athens-Clarke police cadet upon graduating in  
7 1998; and

8 WHEREAS, she was promoted to senior officer after three years of being on the job and  
9 became sergeant in 2005; and

10 WHEREAS, a few months prior to the attack, she graduated from an intensive, three-month  
11 career development program at the University of Louisville's prestigious Southern Police  
12 Institute; and

13 WHEREAS, she was a sergeant and supervisor in the Athens-Clarke police  
14 robbery-homicide unit when she was working off-duty as a uniformed security guard at  
15 Kroger and customers pointed out a man who was acting strangely; and

16 WHEREAS, when Officer Gale approached the man he lunged at her, knocking her down  
17 to the ground, and proceeded to stab her a dozen times in her back, arms, and leg, severing  
18 the officer's femoral artery; and

19 WHEREAS, she was in a coma for two weeks, endured several surgeries to save her leg, and  
20 was released from the hospital 45 days later; and

21 WHEREAS, she made use of the last four years by recovering and earning a master's degree  
22 in public administration from the University of Georgia; and

23 WHEREAS, she is currently assigned as a specialist with the training division and assists  
24 with re-accreditation, an independent review of the police department conducted every three  
25 years by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies; and

26 WHEREAS, she has exhibited extraordinary devotion to duty, outstanding loyalty, fine  
27 leadership, and meticulous attention to detail in all her duties, and her efficient and effective  
28 commitment to excellence has been continually recognized by her peers; and

29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments and  
30 dedicated public service of this distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
32 commend Officer Courtney Gale for effective, unselfish, and dedicated public service;  
33 recognize her dedication to law enforcement; and extend to her their most sincere best wishes  
34 for continued health and happiness.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
36 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Officer Courtney Gale.