

Senate Resolution 1284

By: Senator Unterman of the 45th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing August 26 through September 1, 2012, as Anaphylaxis Awareness Week at the  
2 capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, as many as 15 million Americans have food allergies, nearly six million of  
4 whom are under the age of 18; and

5 WHEREAS, research shows that the prevalence of food allergies is increasing among  
6 children; and

7 WHEREAS, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, food  
8 allergy reactions result in more than 300,000 ambulatory care visits each year involving a  
9 child under the age of 18; and

10 WHEREAS, a food allergy reaction occurs when an individual unknowingly eats a food  
11 containing an ingredient to which he or she is allergic; and

12 WHEREAS, there is no cure for a food allergy and scientists do not understand why food  
13 allergies occur; and

14 WHEREAS, strict avoidance of the offending food is the only way to prevent an allergic  
15 reaction; and

16 WHEREAS, anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause  
17 death; and

18 WHEREAS, up to 25 percent of all reactions in school settings involve students and adult  
19 staffers whose risk for anaphylaxis is unknown at the time of the event; and

20 WHEREAS, children and adult staff should have epinephrine auto-injectors made available  
21 to them at school, so as to protect a life in the tragic event of anaphylaxis.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
23 recognize the importance of student health in elementary and secondary education, encourage  
24 Georgia law to authorize at-risk students to carry and self-administer auto-injectable  
25 epinephrine, and recognize August 26 through September 1, 2012, as Anaphylaxis  
26 Awareness Week at the capitol.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
28 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the public and the press.