

Senate Resolution 244

By: Senators Butler of the 55th, Tate of the 38th, Seay of the 34th, Fort of the 39th, Miller of the 49th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Texting Organization Against Distracted Driving, Inc.,
2 (TOADD); and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, since October, 2010, TOADD, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has striven
4 to become a global icon known for and dedicated to promoting social health and public
5 safety; and

6 WHEREAS, TOADD's mission is to create a safer social and mobile environment by
7 addressing issues relevant to youth regarding appropriate technology use, social health, and
8 literacy awareness; and

9 WHEREAS, driver distraction presents a serious and potentially deadly danger; in 2009,
10 5,474 people were killed on United States roadways and an estimated additional 448,000
11 were injured in motor vehicle crashes that were reported to have involved distracted driving,
12 which can involve cell phone use, texting while driving, eating, drinking, talking with
13 passengers, and using in-vehicle technologies and portable electronic devices; and

14 WHEREAS, TOADD's proactive approach hopes to encourage healthy mobile and social
15 lifestyles, reduce the incidents of injury and death attributed to irresponsible social and
16 mobile behavior, stimulate youth involvement, empower youth leadership, and build
17 lifesaving partnerships under the direction of TOADD founder, Marie-Antoinette Burrell;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, thus far, TOADD has reached over 1.5 million people; sharing awareness about
20 the concerns and challenges being faced in this fast paced wireless society through various
21 media outlets, innovative workshops, special events, and speaking engagements, and
22 programs featuring Miss TOADD, the organization's mascot; and

23 WHEREAS, TOADD recognizes the week of July 21 to July 27, 2013, as Text With Respect
24 Week in an effort to inspire citizens to drive safely, observe proper technology use, and
25 encourage distracted driving awareness; and

26 WHEREAS, Texting Organization Against Distracted Driving, Inc., is an organization
27 dedicated to facilitating the safety and awareness of the citizens of this state, and it is
28 abundantly fitting and proper that it be recognized as an asset to Georgians everywhere as
29 we learn how to enjoy the benefits of a technologically progressive society while preserving
30 our safety and the safety of countless other drivers.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 commend the Texting Organization Against Distracted Driving, Inc., for their diligence and
33 success in teaching distracted driving awareness to individuals across the country, support
34 them during the week of July 21 to July 27, 2013, Text With Respect Week, and extend their
35 sincere wishes for future success.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
37 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Texting Organization Against Distracted
38 Driving, Inc., founder, Marie-Antoinette Burrell.