

Senate Resolution 439

By: Senators Hill of the 32nd, Loudermilk of the 14th and Carter of the 1st

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the memories of Police Officer Sean Callahan and Deputy Sheriff Brian Lamar
2 Mahaffey and recognizing and commending all law enforcement officers throughout the
3 State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, on December 17, 2012, Officer Sean Callahan, having been with the Clayton
5 County Police Department for only four months, responded to a domestic violence dispute
6 at The Georgia Motel; and

7 WHEREAS, as he and another officer attempted to make an arrest, a man fled and began
8 firing rounds, striking Officer Callahan twice in the head, resulting in the death of Officer
9 Callahan on the following day; and

10 WHEREAS, on Saturday, May 8, 2010, Deputy Sheriff Brian Lamar Mahaffey with the
11 Rockdale County Sheriff's Office was shot and killed as he and other deputies attempted to
12 serve a warrant on a suspect wanted for rape, kidnapping, and aggravated assault; and

13 WHEREAS, the suspect opened fire, fatally wounding Deputy Sheriff Mahaffey in the arm
14 and under his protective vest; and

15 WHEREAS, Deputy Sheriff Mahaffey is survived by a wife and two young children; and

16 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has been well served by these brave officers who paid the
17 ultimate sacrifice with their lives in order to protect and preserve the security and safety of
18 Georgia's citizens; and

19 WHEREAS, all law enforcement officers of the State of Georgia bravely and selflessly risk
20 their lives in order to protect the citizens they serve, performing their duties under all
21 conditions, and facing unknown hazards and dangers in an environment that seems
22 increasingly hostile each and every day that they go to work; and

23 WHEREAS, according to the National Institute of Justice, it is estimated that up to
24 50 percent of all calls to law enforcement are domestic violence related; and

25 WHEREAS, law enforcement officers have an extremely difficult and dangerous job when
26 responding to domestic violence calls, and many officers believe that domestic violence calls
27 present the greatest danger, not only to the victim, but also to the responding officer; and

28 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia recognizes the danger of domestic violence situations for
29 the victims and for those that are called to serve arrest warrants and protection orders as well
30 as protect and preserve the security and safety of its citizens.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 humbly and proudly commend Deputy Sheriff Mahaffey and Officer Callahan for their
33 bravery, their devotion to duty, and their dedication to the citizens of the State of Georgia and
34 extend their most sincere sympathy to the families of these fallen heroes.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body thank and commend on behalf
36 of the State of Georgia all of the law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line each
37 and every day and wear their city, county, or state's law enforcement uniform to protect the
38 citizens of their community and this great state.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
40 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to each fallen hero's family as a tangible
41 token of the sentiments expressed herein.