

Senate Resolution 835

By: Senators Albers of the 56th and Williams of the 19th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Ava Bullard and recognizing February 4, 2014, as Ava's Law Day at the state
2 capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Ava Bullard was diagnosed with autism at the age of two; and

4 WHEREAS, Ava was unable to speak, feed herself, play with toys, respond to her name, or
5 make eye contact; and

6 WHEREAS, the developmental pediatrician said Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) was the
7 prescribed treatment, but because it was not available where Ava lived, the doctor suggested
8 Ava be placed in the special education early intervention classroom when she turned three;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Ava's mother and father decided to pursue the ABA treatment despite their
11 insurance company's exclusion of autism, and Ava started intensive ABA with the South
12 Carolina Early Autism Project; and

13 WHEREAS, she worked hard, sometimes 30 to 40 hours a week, for over two years and
14 never gave up; Ava learned how to follow directions and use words to communicate; and

15 WHEREAS, today Ava is nine years old and in fourth grade; she is in the top group in a
16 regular education classroom and has tied for the highest math CRCT score in her grade; and

17 WHEREAS, when she grows up, Ava wants to be a fashion designer and own her own store
18 in Lyons, Georgia; and

19 WHEREAS, Ava's parents, Anna and Noah Bullard, know that without these intensive
20 services, Ava would have been a child who would needed one-on-one care for the rest of her
21 life;

22 WHEREAS, Ava has testified for legislative committees and is the namesake for Ava's Law;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, as this magnificent young lady and her family worked tirelessly against
25 numerous obstacles, it is abundantly proper to recognize all of their efforts in the pursuit to
26 raise awareness for autism.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
28 commend Ava Bullard on her continued efforts toward the passage of Ava's Law in Georgia
29 in order to benefit others with autism and recognize February 4, 2014, as Ava's Law Day at
30 the capitol.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
32 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Ava Bullard.