

Senate Resolution 558

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Harbison of the 15th, Harper of the 7th, Burke of the 11th, Watson of the 1st and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide that the proceeds of excise  
2 taxes on the sale of fireworks in this state be dedicated to the funding of trauma care, fire  
3 services, burn treatment, and local public safety purposes in the State of Georgia; to provide  
4 that such funds shall not lapse; to provide for related matters; to provide for the submission  
5 of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

### 7 SECTION 1.

8 Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI of the Constitution is amended by adding a new  
9 subparagraph to read as follows:

10 "(o) The proceeds of any excise tax imposed by general law on the sale of fireworks in  
11 this state shall be dedicated to the provision of trauma care, fire services, burn treatment,  
12 and local public safety purposes in Georgia. The General Assembly shall provide by  
13 general law for the dedication and deposit of revenues raised from any such excise tax on  
14 fireworks. Moneys collected from the excise tax on the sale of fireworks shall be  
15 exclusively used as follows: 45 percent shall be used for the provision of trauma care  
16 through a state-wide trauma care network; 45 percent shall be used by the Georgia  
17 Firefighter Standards and Training Council to improve the equipping and training of  
18 firefighters and to improve the ISO rating of fire departments in this state; 5 percent shall  
19 be used to provide support to burn victims through foundations which partner with the fire  
20 service and burn care community to support medical facilities for burn victims and to assist  
21 burn survivors in their recovery; and 5 percent shall be provided to local governments to  
22 be used exclusively for public safety purposes. Contributions and revenues deposited for  
23 such purposes shall not lapse and shall not be subject to the limitations of subparagraph (a)  
24 of this Paragraph or of Article VII, Section III, Paragraph II."

25 **SECTION 2.**

26 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as  
27 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the  
28 above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

29 "( ) YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to provide that the  
30 ( ) NO proceeds of excise taxes on the sale of fireworks be dedicated to the funding  
31 of trauma care, firefighter equipping and training, treatment of burn victims,  
32 and local public safety purposes?"

33

34 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."

35 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If  
36 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall  
37 become a part of the Constitution of this state.