

House Resolution 1458

By: Representatives Waites of the 60th, Fludd of the 64th, Scott of the 76th, Thomas of the 56th, and Dawkins-Haigler of the 91st

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging all state, county, and local law enforcement agencies to engage in emergency
2 pursuits only in the most necessary instances; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, one of the most difficult law enforcement activities to manage is that of motor
4 vehicle emergency pursuits; and

5 WHEREAS, each year in the United States, several hundred persons, including law
6 enforcement officers and innocent men, women, and children, are injured or killed during the
7 course of emergency pursuits; and

8 WHEREAS, the public harm caused by emergency pursuits can, in many instances, negate
9 the benefits of capturing the persons pursued; and

10 WHEREAS, reducing the risks inherent in emergency pursuits require that such pursuits be
11 undertaken only in the most necessary instances; and

12 WHEREAS, Code Section 35-1-14 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated requires that
13 each state, county, and local law enforcement agency that conducts emergency response and
14 vehicular pursuits adopt written policies that set forth the manner in which emergency
15 pursuits shall be conducted.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
17 the members of this body join together to encourage all state, county, and local law
18 enforcement agencies to engage in emergency pursuits only when there is probable cause to
19 believe that the persons being pursued have committed or are committing murder, armed
20 robbery, rape, kidnapping, aggravated battery, or any offense that creates an immediate threat
21 of death or serious bodily injury to another person or a substantial threat to the safety of
22 another person.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
24 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
25 Department of Public Safety, the Georgia Sheriffs' Association, and the Georgia Association
26 of Chiefs of Police.