

Senate Resolution 1158

By: Senators Butler of the 55th, Thompson of the 14th, Bethel of the 54th and Hufstetler of the 52nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Cherokee Circuit Child Fatality Review Committee on
2 receiving the 2015 Child Fatality Review Prevention Team Award; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, under the leadership of Assistant District Attorney Sharon Fox, the Gordon and
4 Bartow County Child Fatality Review teams and their partners have successfully provided
5 outreach and education to the residents of the Cherokee Judicial Circuit in an effort to reduce
6 child death and injury in 2015; and

7 WHEREAS, the Gordon County Child Fatality Review Committee sought to address
8 sleep-related infant deaths, and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Child Fatality Review
9 Unit and Cribs for Kids provided ten Pack 'n Plays that were distributed among low income
10 families; and

11 WHEREAS, Jennifer Guider helped coordinate the Health Department, local hospital, DFCS,
12 Child Advocacy Center, which has a First Steps program where every family who has a child
13 born in the county gets a visit while the family is still at the hospital, and local pediatricians
14 to promote consistent messaging about the dangers of bed sharing and a proper sleep
15 environment, and consequently, Gordon County has seen a dramatic drop in sleep-related
16 infant deaths; and

17 WHEREAS, the Gordon County committee helped with an initiative for the private probation
18 department to deduct community service hours from probationers who were willing to
19 purchase a new car or booster seat from an approved list; and

20 WHEREAS, the seats are stored at the local police department and are distributed during the
21 Annual Safety Fair, which is held at a local Home Depot store, and the fire department staff
22 are child safety seat certified and have shared many accounts of how grateful families are
23 when they have their older, oftentimes damaged, seats replaced with brand new safety
24 approved seats; and

25 WHEREAS, Rhea Kisling and the Bartow County Child Fatality Review Committee have
26 coordinated a Youth Mental Health First Aid training within the circuit and are working
27 toward training at least 1,000 people by the end of the program grant; and

28 WHEREAS, the YMHFA training is intended to provide assistance to youth experiencing
29 a mental health crisis until professional help can be located, and the committee hopes that
30 this program will impact youth suicide rates; and

31 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper for this body to recognize with particularity
32 the outstanding accomplishments of this extraordinary committee.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 recognize the Cherokee Circuit Child Fatality Review Committee on receiving the 2015
35 Child Fatality Review Prevention Team Award and commend its members for their
36 outstanding service to their community and this state.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
38 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Cherokee
39 Circuit Child Fatality Review Committee.