

Senate Resolution 110

By: Senators Unterman of the 45th, Harper of the 7th and Stone of the 23rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the law enforcement officers and prosecutors who worked
2 diligently to ensure the protection of Georgia's vulnerable adult population; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Georgia's vulnerable adult population continues to increase and Georgia's law
5 enforcement community continues to exercise the superlative laws passed in House Bill 78
6 to protect the vulnerable adult population; and

7 WHEREAS, Eatonton Police Chief Kent Lawrence, Gwinnett County Police Detective Justin
8 Von Behren, Houston County Chief Assistant District Attorney Erikka Williams, and Cobb
9 County Senior Assistant District Attorney Jason Marbutt protected Georgia's vulnerable adult
10 population in an exemplary manner; and

11 WHEREAS, Eatonton Police Chief Lawrence and the Eatonton police worked selflessly to
12 ensure the safety of one of its disabled residents who had been severely neglected by her
13 family members; and

14 WHEREAS, Gwinnett County Police Detective Von Behren worked relentlessly until he
15 relocated 16 residents and indicted eight people on 53 criminal charges for abuse, financial
16 exploitation, and operating an unlicensed personal care home; and

17 WHEREAS, Houston County Chief Assistant District Attorney Williams worked diligently
18 on a trial and argued for significant prison time for a subject who was sentenced to 15 years
19 in prison and 16 years on probation for multiple counts of exploitation of an 82 year old
20 resident who suffered from dementia; and

21 WHEREAS, Cobb County Senior Assistant District Attorney Marbutt worked earnestly on
22 a trial to convict two subjects who were sentenced up to 30 years in prison for 16 counts of

23 abusing and neglecting three mentally ill men who lived in an unlicensed personal care
24 home; and

25 WHEREAS, the selfless and heroic actions of Eatonton Police Chief Kent Lawrence,
26 Gwinnett County Police Detective Justin Von Behren, Houston County Chief Assistant
27 District Attorney Erikka Williams, and Cobb County Senior Assistant District Attorney Jason
28 Marbutt stand as a shining tribute to the strength of human spirit and willpower, and it is
29 abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of these remarkable and
30 distinguished Georgians be recognized appropriately.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 recognize and commend the law enforcement officers and prosecutors for their diligent
33 contributions to ensure the safety of Georgia's vulnerable adult citizens.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
35 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Eatonton Police
36 Chief Kent Lawrence, Gwinnett County Police Detective Justin Von Behren, Houston
37 County Chief Assistant District Attorney Erikka Williams, and Cobb County Senior
38 Assistant District Attorney Jason Marbutt.