

Senate Resolution 602

By: Senators Thompson of the 14th, Unterman of the 45th, Shafer of the 48th, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Millar of the 40th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending first responders and recognizing February, 2018, as American Heart Month in
2 Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, great advances in heart health have occurred in the State of Georgia, but still
4 more work must be done to eliminate heart disease, which causes more than 700,000
5 Americans to suffer a heart attack each year; and

6 WHEREAS, public awareness of health issues such as health disease should be increased so
7 that Georgians may take preventative actions ensuring their longevity; and

8 WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease affects more than 92 million Americans nation wide, and
9 heart disease is the number one cause of death for Americans; and

10 WHEREAS, Georgia is ranked eleventh among 50 states for the highest number of heart
11 disease related deaths; and

12 WHEREAS, less than 50 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims outside of a hospital
13 receive bystander initiated CPR, and approximately 2 percent of victims receive a shock from
14 a bystander initiated AED; and

15 WHEREAS, outside of a hospital, the survival rate for individuals struck with a cardiac arrest
16 is as low as 10 percent; and

17 WHEREAS, survival of a cardiac arrest is heavily reliant on the quick action of our state's
18 brave first responders; and

19 WHEREAS, Carolyn Cosby, on October 18, 2017, at the state capitol was one of the
20 unfortunate individuals to have experienced a heart attack; and

21 WHEREAS, despite the odds, Carolyn survived and made a full neurological recovery
22 merely days after the incident due to the team at Grady Hospital and her first responders; and

23 WHEREAS, these first responders, in addition to the Georgia State Capitol police officers
24 who initiated CPR at the first signs of cardiac arrest, gave Carolyn the best chance of
25 survival; and

26 WHEREAS, the first responders not only gave Carolyn her life back, but gave her family the
27 opportunity to love and cherish their precious time together.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 commend the first responders who saved the life of Carolyn Cosby and recognize
30 February, 2018, as American Heart Month in Georgia to raise public awareness of the risks
31 of heart disease.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
34 press.