

Senate Resolution 830

By: Senator Hill of the 4th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Sunshine House Regional Children's Advocacy Center and honoring
2 Executive Director Carol V. Donaldson; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Sunshine House Regional Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) was created
4 in 1992 for the purpose of improving the community at large by providing prevention,
5 intervention, and aftercare services to all child victims of abuse, nonoffending parents and
6 caretakers, agencies, and professionals within the Middle Judicial Circuit of Candler,
7 Emanuel, Jefferson, Toombs, and Washington counties; and

8 WHEREAS, the Sunshine House CAC is governed by a volunteer board of directors, among
9 whom is Carol V. Donaldson, who has served as Executive Director of the center for
10 21 years; and

11 WHEREAS, the center provides professionals with the advanced training they require in
12 order to conduct forensic interviews and medical examinations at the request of law
13 enforcement agencies and the Division of Family and Children Services; and

14 WHEREAS, crisis counseling and therapy are provided by licensed professionals in a
15 nonthreatening and child-friendly environment, allowing children to remain the focus of
16 investigations while simultaneously reducing trauma in those who have been physically,
17 sexually, or emotionally abused, as well as those who have had the misfortune of witnessing
18 extreme violence; and

19 WHEREAS, the CAC's multidisciplinary teams work efficiently so that children's cases do
20 not "fall through the cracks," while the children in question are able to receive resources that
21 will aid in reducing their trauma and that will support the investigation of their cases, all at
22 no cost to their families; and

23 WHEREAS, on average, 350 children are seen each year by the Sunshine House CAC, and
24 more than 400 children are receiving counseling and therapy from the four licensed clinical
25 professionals on staff today; and

26 WHEREAS, of the children seen at the Sunshine House CAC, 85 percent have been sexually
27 abused and 30 percent of those are under the age of six; and

28 WHEREAS, in light of these tragic facts, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the efforts
29 of this center and its staff toward protecting children who have been the victims of abuse be
30 appropriately recognized.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 recognize the Sunshine House Regional Children's Advocacy Center and honor Executive
33 Director Carol V. Donaldson.

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 the Sunshine House
36 Regional Children's Advocacy Center and Executive Director Carol V. Donaldson.