

Senate Resolution 765

By: Senators Brass of the 6th, Williams of the 25th, Robertson of the 29th, Still of the 48th, Walker III of the 20th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the law enforcement officers in the state of Georgia and the
2 United States; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, more than 800,000 law enforcement officers in the United States risk their lives
4 daily to serve and protect their communities, including more than 23,000 in the state of
5 Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, there are now more than 24,000 names counted among America's fallen law
7 enforcement heroes on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial dating
8 back to 1786, including 753 from the state of Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, our nation's law enforcement officers perform their difficult and dangerous job
10 honorably and professionally, with the overwhelming majority of Americans having
11 responded positively to their interactions with police; and

12 WHEREAS, innovative and dedicated efforts by law enforcement officers successfully
13 brought down crime rates over the past three decades from the historic highs experienced in
14 the 1990s; and

15 WHEREAS, the environment for officers has become increasingly more hostile and their
16 safety having become more precarious, with over 79,000 law enforcement officers having
17 been assaulted by criminals in 2023, the highest officer assault rate in the past 10 years;
18 1,055 officers having been shot during the past three years; and 172 killed in the line of duty;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, more than 2,500 law enforcement officers in the United States have died in the
21 line of duty during the past decade; and

22 WHEREAS, law enforcement officers typically encounter between 400 and 600 traumatic
23 events during their careers, compared with three or four for the average citizen; and

24 WHEREAS, the unusually high number of traumatic events experienced by law enforcement
25 officers has contributed to a 54 percent higher suicide rate among officers than among other
26 American workers; and

27 WHEREAS, the number of full-time state and local officers dropped by 5.3 percent between
28 2019 and 2021, the equivalent of nearly 37,000 fewer officers, leaving behind a dangerously
29 low level of sworn officers to serve and protect our communities; and

30 WHEREAS, supporting law enforcement officers with the equipment, training, and funding
31 needed to protect American communities from criminal violence has long received
32 overwhelming public support from across the political spectrum.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 remember and honor the officers and families who have experienced a death or injury in the

35 line of duty, support increased measures to be taken to maximize the safety and well-being
36 of officers, and recognize all officers currently serving.

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