

House Resolution 299

By: Representatives Au of the 50th, Newton of the 127th, Lim of the 98th, Camp of the 135th,
and Seabaugh of the 34th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the success of lay person CPR training in increasing the survival rate of cardiac
2 arrest and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the need of such training; and
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, two Gainesville students may not be here today if it were not for the lifesaving
5 measures of Dawn Wales and Gainesville City School staff who conducted immediate
6 bystander CPR and used in-school defibrillators to provide electrical shock to a stopped
7 heart; and

8 WHEREAS, heart disease affects men, women, and children of every age and race in the
9 United States, and sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is a leading cause of death in the United
10 States, affecting approximately 356,000 people of all ages outside hospitals annually; and

11 WHEREAS, during this week alone, about 6,800 unsuspecting victims will suffer SCA, most
12 of them at home (about 70 percent); their hearts will unexpectedly stop beating, blood will
13 no longer flow to the brain and throughout the body, and they will collapse, stop breathing
14 normally, and may appear to be having seizures—in essence, they will be dead and they will
15 stay this way unless bystanders act immediately to restore their heartbeats with CPR and
16 defibrillation; and

17 WHEREAS, unfortunately, only 46 percent of SCA victims receive the help that they need
18 from bystanders before EMS arrives at the scene; and

19 WHEREAS, for every minute that passes without CPR and defibrillation, the chances of
20 survival decrease by 7-10 percent; as a result, only 10 percent of victims typically
21 survive—survival rates could double or triple if more people knew what to do when SCA
22 strikes; in fact, as many as 50,000 additional lives could be saved each year.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
24 the members of this body pause in their deliberations to commend the great work by this
25 team of lifesavers from Gainesville City Schools in saving two students lives by initiating
26 CPR.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that today, February 23, 2023, is CPR-AED Awareness Day
28 at the Georgia state capitol.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
30 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
31 public and the press.