

## House Resolution 885

By: Representatives Gullett of the 19<sup>th</sup>, Hitchens of the 161<sup>st</sup>, Gravley of the 67<sup>th</sup>, Momtahan of the 17<sup>th</sup>, and Sainz of the 180<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators as first responders in Georgia; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators are part of the critical infrastructure  
4 of the public safety framework and trained as communication officers pursuant to the  
5 Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Act, Chapter 8 of Title 35; and

6 WHEREAS, 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators play a critical role in emergency  
7 response as the first line of communication for persons needing police, fire, or medical  
8 response, and as a lifeline to police, fire, and medical response personnel in the field; and

9 WHEREAS, these individuals are challenged on a daily basis, dealing with stressful  
10 situations involving life and death, and handle such situations with compassion, empathy,  
11 and professionalism; and

12 WHEREAS, while employing their experience and training to recognize a critical piece of  
13 information, 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators are often communicating with  
14 people in states of great distress, harm, fear, or injury; and

15 WHEREAS, 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators operate specialized systems for  
16 tracking field responders, identifying the location of 9-1-1 callers, and for communicating  
17 emergencies; and

18 WHEREAS, when responding to reports of missing, abducted, and sexually exploited  
19 children, the information obtained and actions taken by 9-1-1 and public safety  
20 telecommunicators form the foundation for an effective response; and

21 WHEREAS, when a hostage-taker or suicidal person calls 9-1-1, the first contact is with a  
22 9-1-1 or public safety telecommunicator whose negotiation skills can prevent the situation  
23 from worsening; and

24 WHEREAS, during mass casualty or other injurious incidents, 9-1-1 and public safety  
25 telecommunicators coach callers through first aid and deliver advice to prevent further harm,  
26 all while collecting vital information to provide situational awareness for responding  
27 emergency personnel; and

28 WHEREAS, the performance of 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators has a profound  
29 effect on the outcome of the call for service and timeliness and effectiveness of the operators  
30 can be the difference between life and death; and

31 WHEREAS, without 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators adequate public safety  
32 cannot be achieved.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
34 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators are first responders in Georgia and shall be  
35 recognized as such in policy considerations regarding first responders.

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