

## Senate Resolution 1169

By: Senators Parent of the 42nd, Jones of the 10th, Henson of the 41st, Millar of the 40th, Butler of the 55th and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Shykia Ward-Reese; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished young  
3 citizens with the passing of Shykia Ward-Reese; and
- 4 WHEREAS, though only an eighth grader, Shykia Ward-Reese was busy: playing in the  
5 band, running track, and cheering at Renfroe Middle School in Decatur, Georgia, where she  
6 was dearly loved by her fellow classmates; and
- 7 WHEREAS, she became a homicide victim on March 25, 2018, as a result of an act of  
8 senseless violence, her death leaving the members of her community shocked and  
9 heartbroken; and
- 10 WHEREAS, in an effort to help students and faculty grapple with such a tragic loss, grief  
11 counselors were brought into Renfroe Middle School, providing much needed support to all;  
12 and
- 13 WHEREAS, community members, lead by Missie Hill, organized a vigil and fund-raiser to  
14 assist the family and quickly raised more than \$14,000.00 through a Go Fund Me page to go  
15 toward funeral costs; and
- 16 WHEREAS, hundreds of people attended a candlelight vigil hosted by the Beacon Hill  
17 NAACP chapter to honor Shykia at Beacon Municipal Center courtyard in downtown  
18 Decatur; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Shykia is survived by her mother and 7-year-old sister and was a joyful light  
20 within her community; she will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing her.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
22 join in honoring the life and memory of Shykia Ward-Reese and express their deepest and  
23 most sincere regret at her passing.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
25 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of  
26 Shykia Ward-Reese.