

## Senate Resolution 187

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Butler of the 55th, Parent of the 42nd, Orrock of the 36th, Davenport of the 44th and others

## 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 SENATE that the members of this body  
24 pause in their deliberations to commend the great work by this team of lifesavers from  
25 Gainesville City Schools in saving two students lives by initiating CPR.

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

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