

Senate Resolution 188

By: Senators Carter of the 1st, Albers of the 56th, Loudermilk of the 14th, Jackson of the 24th, Seay of the 34th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending law enforcement cooperation between the State of Georgia,
2 the United States Department of State, and the Republic of Georgia.

3 WHEREAS, the Republic of Georgia, which gained its independence from the Soviet Union
4 in 1991, is an emerging democracy committed to reforming the Ministry of Internal Affairs
5 (MoIA) and the national police force to reflect international best practices and community
6 policing; and

7 WHEREAS, the United States Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and
8 Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) and the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi, Georgia, endeavor to assist
9 law enforcement authorities in the Republic of Georgia as they seek to improve law
10 enforcement competencies and response to emergencies through a long-term criminal justice
11 development program, which began in 2003; and

12 WHEREAS, the Republic of Georgia is the size of South Carolina with a population of over
13 4.5 million people, and the MoIA is composed of 27,000 officers; and

14 WHEREAS, the INL Senior Police Advisor at the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi, Georgia, is
15 Michael Turner, a retired Chief of Police from the State of Georgia, who has established the
16 Georgia-to-Georgia development program matching law enforcement professionals from the
17 State of Georgia to their counterparts in the Republic of Georgia for training, mentoring, and
18 development purposes; and

19 WHEREAS, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) responded to an INL request for
20 assistance by sponsoring site visits to the GBI and its crime laboratory while also providing
21 law enforcement development classes for the MoIA; and

22 WHEREAS, the GBI has assisted the Republic of Georgia since 2010 by hosting delegations
23 and providing best practices based training courses for the MoIA in investigative, tactical,
24 and management areas; and

25 WHEREAS, 27 GBI personnel have donated more than 1,000 hours of vacation and leave
26 time since 2010 to provide a multitude of specialized and instructor training programs for
27 more than 250 of their MoIA counterparts.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 recognize the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and its employees for their selfless donation
30 of time and experience reflected in the assistance provided to the Republic of Georgia
31 Ministry of Internal Affairs.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the United States Department of State's
34 Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi,
35 Georgia, and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.