

Senate Resolution 854

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Orrock of the 36th, Beach of the 21st, Watson of the 1st and Anderson of the 24th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the heroic actions of the Woodward Academy Security Team; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on November 14, 2023, in College Park, Georgia, a significant fire erupted in
4 a nearby apartment building, posing a grave threat to the lives of its residents; and

5 WHEREAS, Director Jeff Yarbrough and Officers Brian Ferguson and Tim Fenner,
6 representing the Woodward Academy Security Team, responded promptly and courageously
7 to the emergency situation; and

8 WHEREAS, Director Yarbrough and Officers Ferguson and Fenner, upon observing the
9 smoke and flames emanating from the vicinity of the campus, swiftly proceeded to the scene
10 with the understanding of the imminent danger and the necessity to preserve life; and

11 WHEREAS, the Woodward Academy Security Team, arriving before the fire department,
12 valiantly entered the burning structure to rescue trapped residents, exemplifying an
13 unwavering commitment to the preservation of life; and

14 WHEREAS, Officer Ferguson demonstrated remarkable heroism in locating a woman and
15 her elderly mother within one of the apartments and evacuating them to safety while Officer
16 Fenner displayed exceptional courage in attempting to rescue a 94-year-old deaf woman
17 ensnared within another apartment amidst intense heat and flames; and

18 WHEREAS, Officer Fenner, despite encountering those perilous conditions, exhibited
19 extraordinary bravery by extricating the 94-year-old woman, who was engulfed in flames,
20 to safety, thereby placing his own life at risk to safeguard hers; and

21 WHEREAS, the expeditious and courageous actions of the Woodward Academy Security
22 Team resulted in the successful rescue of three individuals from the conflagration, including
23 the 94 year-old woman, who received urgent medical treatment subsequent to the ordeal; and

24 WHEREAS, the commendable efforts of Director Jeff Yarbrough, Officer Brian Ferguson,
25 and Officer Tim Fenner epitomize the highest standards of service, sacrifice, and community
26 dedication.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
28 honor the exceptional bravery and selflessness demonstrated by the Woodward Academy
29 Security Team in the face of grave peril.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
31 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Director Jeff
32 Yarbrough and Officers Brian Ferguson and Tim Fenner.