

Senate Resolution 844

By: Senators Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Robertson of the 29th, Anavitarte of the 31st and Albers of the 56th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Georgia Department of Insurance and the State Fire Marshal to enforce the
2 International Fire Code and urging building owners and developers to install communication
3 enhancement systems in all buildings in this state to allow for two-way communications of
4 first responders responding to emergencies; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, it is essential for first responders to be able to communicate effectively within
6 all buildings during emergency situations in order to ensure the safety of our citizens; and

7 WHEREAS, current construction practices can inhibit two-way communication in some
8 buildings, creating potential hazards for both occupants and first responders; and

9 WHEREAS, in times of emergencies such as school incidents, public building emergencies,
10 and other critical situations, the inability of first responders to effectively communicate
11 within a building can result in delays in response time and potentially more dangerous
12 situations; and

13 WHEREAS, the International Fire Code (IFC) requires that all buildings have the ability for
14 first responders to communicate effectively throughout the building in order to ensure the
15 safety and well-being of all occupants; and

16 WHEREAS, the installation and implementation of communication enhancement systems
17 will improve the ability of first responders to communicate in any areas within a building
18 where previously they may have had difficulty communicating during emergencies.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
20 urge the Georgia Department of Insurance and the State Fire Marshal to enforce the
21 International Fire Code and urge building owners and developers to install communication
22 enhancement systems in all buildings in this state to allow for two-way communications of
23 first responders responding to emergencies.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
25 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia
26 Department of Insurance and the State Fire Marshal.