

Senate Resolution 491

By: Senators Stokes of the 43rd, Tate of the 38th, Walker of the 22nd, Brown of the 26th,
and Thomas of the 10th

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing the Pfizer for Life Share Card Program; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, there are approximately 17 million Americans who qualify for medicare and
3 who do not have any prescription drug coverage; and
- 4 WHEREAS, there are tens of thousands of Georgians who are elderly and live on fixed
5 incomes and who have difficulty paying for their prescription medicines; and
- 6 WHEREAS, these individuals are particularly at risk for a variety of health care conditions,
7 including hypertension, high cholesterol, cardiac disease, diabetes, and depression; and
- 8 WHEREAS, a recent national poll showed that 40 percent of low-income seniors have not
9 filled a prescription in the past 12 months; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Congress has not yet enacted a medicare drug program; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Pfizer, Inc has announced that on March 1, 2002, it will implement the Pfizer
12 for Life Share Card Program, which will provide all of the company's prescription drugs for
13 a simple fee of \$15 per prescription to low-income seniors with gross incomes of below
14 \$18,000 or joint incomes of below \$24,000; and
- 15 WHEREAS, the Share Card Program provides an unprecedented opportunity for older
16 Georgians living on fixed incomes to receive life-saving prescriptions at a nominal cost; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Pfizer has a long history of user-friendly donation programs for uninsured,
18 low-income people, including the Sharing the Care Program and the Georgia Partnership for
19 Caring; and

1 WHEREAS, last year, Pfizer provided more than \$16 million worth of medicines without
2 charge to low-income, uninsured Georgians; and

3 WHEREAS, the Share Card Program once again sets the industry standard for a major
4 medication access program.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that this body hereby
6 commends Pfizer, Inc for its compassion and leadership in launching this break-through
7 program, which for the first time gives hope to low-income seniors who struggle to pay for
8 their prescription medications.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body expresses appreciation to Pfizer, Inc for all of
10 its other programs designed to ensure that disadvantaged Georgians have access to the
11 company's broad range of medicines.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all Senators are urged to initiate efforts to educate their
13 senior constituents about the Pfizer for Life Share Card Program so that eligible individuals
14 can take advantage of the coverage that it provides.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
16 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Pfizer, Inc.