

## House Resolution 143

By: Representatives Pelote of the 149<sup>th</sup>, Hugley of the 133<sup>rd</sup>, Unterman of the 84<sup>th</sup>, Manning of the 32<sup>nd</sup>, McClinton of the 68<sup>th</sup> and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Designating April as "Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month"; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, ovarian cancer, also known as "the silent killer," is the most lethal malignancy  
3 of the female reproductive system; and
- 4 WHEREAS, public health experts estimate that approximately 23,000 to 26,800 new cases  
5 of ovarian cancer were diagnosed in the United States in 2000, including approximately 780  
6 cases in Georgia; and
- 7 WHEREAS, the overall survival rate for ovarian cancer is only about 50 percent, and  
8 epidemiologists expected about 14,000 deaths from ovarian cancer in the United States in  
9 2000, including about 300 ovarian cancer deaths in Georgia; and
- 10 WHEREAS, despite effective treatments for early ovarian cancer, the disease is often  
11 undetected until an advanced stage, when the five-year survival rate may be only 30 percent;  
12 and
- 13 WHEREAS, although there is no commonly accepted screening test for all women, there are  
14 diagnostic tests which are appropriate for women who have the symptoms of ovarian cancer  
15 or whose risk of ovarian cancer is increased by their family or personal history; and
- 16 WHEREAS, the House Ovarian Cancer Study Committee, created in 2000 by the adoption  
17 of H.R. 217, after hearing extensive and moving testimony from public health experts,  
18 doctors, organizations, and individuals who have survived ovarian cancer, recommended an  
19 emphasis on public education, which includes information regarding risk factors for ovarian  
20 cancer, the role of heredity, symptoms, diagnostic tests, and treatment options; and
- 21 WHEREAS, designating a month for awareness of ovarian cancer is an excellent tactic to  
22 focus public attention on this insidious and lethal disease.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
2 GEORGIA that the month of April in each year is designated as Ovarian Cancer Awareness  
3 Month.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that public health agencies are urged to develop strategies,  
5 pamphlets, public service announcements, presentations, and a coordinated campaign to  
6 increase public awareness and knowledge regarding this virulent disease, and that hospitals,  
7 health care providers, service organizations, churches, newspapers, advertisers, broadcasters,  
8 schools, and individuals are encouraged to participate fully in this struggle to save lives  
9 through public education regarding ovarian cancer.