

House Resolution 1287

By: Representative Drenner of the 57<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing National Eating Disorders Awareness Week; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, anorexia, bulimia, and compulsive overeating are medical problems which are  
3 often misunderstood; and
- 4 WHEREAS, estimates are that 8 million Americans suffer from eating disorders; and
- 5 WHEREAS, anorexia is linked to an 18-fold increase in the risk of death, with up to 20  
6 percent of sufferers dying of malnutrition and suicide, and is also the psychiatric disorder  
7 with the highest mortality rate; and
- 8 WHEREAS, eating disorders are associated with substantial psychological problems,  
9 including depression, substance abuse, and suicide, and can lead to major medical  
10 complications, including cardiac arrhythmia, cognitive impairment, certain cancers,  
11 osteoporosis, infertility, and, most seriously, death; and
- 12 WHEREAS, our "best and brightest girls" are the most vulnerable to eating disorders with  
13 90 percent of sufferers adolescents and young women; and
- 14 WHEREAS, eating disorders cut across race, color, gender, and socioeconomic categories;  
15 and
- 16 WHEREAS, eating disorders are increasing in younger age groups with children as young  
17 as seven years old suffering; and
- 18 WHEREAS, 40-60 percent of high school girls diet, 13 percent of high school girls purge,  
19 30-40 percent of junior high girls worry about weight, and 40 percent of nine-year old girls  
20 have dieted; and

1 WHEREAS, genetic, social, familial factors, and media pressures are all known to be related  
2 to eating disorders; and

3 WHEREAS, increased public awareness concerning eating disorders can help to secure  
4 needed treatment and resources; and

5 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives is concerned with preserving and protecting the  
6 health of the citizens of Georgia.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
8 the members of this body recognize February 22-29, 2004, as National Eating Disorders  
9 Awareness Week, so deemed by the Eating Disorders Information Network as "Listen to  
10 Your Body Week."

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
12 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Division of Public  
13 Health of the Department of Human Resources.