

House Resolution 1543

By: Representative Manning of the 32nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Vascular Birthmarks Foundation and recognizing May 15, 2004, as
2 "National Awareness of Vascular Birthmarks Day"; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, May 15, 2004, is designated as "National Awareness of Vascular Birthmarks
4 Day"; and

5 WHEREAS, the purposes of "National Awareness of Vascular Birthmarks Day" are to
6 provide information and to promote awareness of the complexities of vascular birthmarks;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, vascular birthmarks are created by abnormal growths of blood vessels, which
9 at their worst can be radically disfiguring and life-threatening; and

10 WHEREAS, vascular birthmarks occur in approximately 40,000 children born each year, and
11 of these children one in 100 is born with a birthmark that will require the attention of a
12 medical specialist; and

13 WHEREAS, there is no single medical specialty dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of
14 birthmarks; and

15 WHEREAS, treatment for birthmarks can begin on sufferers as young as newborns; and

16 WHEREAS, vascular birthmarks accounted for 41 percent of all laser/light procedures
17 performed in 2003 according to the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery; and

18 WHEREAS, vascular birthmarks can develop into severe deformities later in life; and

19 WHEREAS, vascular birthmarks can be a hemangioma, port wine stain, or vascular
20 malformation; and

1 WHEREAS, a port wine stain birthmark can often be indicative of such serious medical
2 problems as glaucoma, seizure disorders, and calcium deposits in the brain; and

3 WHEREAS, vascular birthmarks can have a huge impact physically, psychologically, and
4 sociologically on the lives of children or adults and their families; and

5 WHEREAS, the Vascular Birthmarks Foundation exists to provide support and informational
6 resources for individuals affected by hemangiomas, port wine stains, and other vascular
7 birthmarks and tumors; to sponsor relevant research; and to promote physician education;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the citizens of Georgia recognize the need for additional awareness of vascular
10 birthmarks.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
12 this body commends the Vascular Birthmarks Foundation on its efforts to educate the public
13 and the medical community on the dangers of vascular birthmarks and recognizes May 15,
14 2004, as "National Awareness of Vascular Birthmarks Day."

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
16 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Vascular Birthmarks
17 Foundation.