

House Resolution 217

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57th, Ashe of the 56th, and Manning of the 32nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to approve the waivers
2 requested by Georgia to further expand Georgia's self-directed care initiative; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, when elderly and disabled persons have choices regarding their health care, they
5 can make the right choice for their lives, save the state money by making wiser individual
6 choices, and be more satisfied with their health care; and

7 WHEREAS, self-directed care initiatives in Arkansas, Florida, and New Jersey have been
8 shown to reduce overall Medicaid expenditures even while both the quantity and quality of
9 services rises; and

10 WHEREAS, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved
11 programs that provide funding flexibility for persons with physical disabilities and/or
12 traumatic brain injury to participate in the self-directed care initiative and has encouraged
13 states to implement such programs; and

14 WHEREAS, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services may also permit
15 self-directed care initiatives for persons with developmental disabilities through the Mental
16 Retardation Waiver Program (MRWP) and for senior adults and those who are functionally
17 impaired/disabled through the Community Care Service Program (CCSP).

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
19 the members of this body hereby support the implementation of a Long-term Care
20 Self-Directed Care Initiative, offering choice and flexibility to Georgia citizens using the
21 Community Care Service Program, Mental Retardation Waiver, and Independent Care
22 Waiver.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that this body
24 hereby urges the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to approve the waivers

- 1 requested by Georgia for the Mental Retardation Waiver Program and the Community Care
- 2 Service Program to further expand Georgia's self-directed care initiative.