

House Resolution 513

By: Representative Stanley-Turner of the 53rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging Congress to enact legislation establishing a national alert system for missing adults
2 who suffer from Alzheimer's disease, Autism, dementia, and other cognitive and mental
3 impairments; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Levi's Call, Georgia's implementation of the "Amber Alert" program, was
5 established in January, 2002, as a voluntary partnership between law enforcement,
6 emergency management, and broadcasters to activate an urgent bulletin in child abduction
7 cases; and

8 WHEREAS, recognizing the need for a similar program to address the tragedy and
9 heartbreak involved in the disappearance of mentally disabled adults and spurred by the
10 disappearance of Mrs. Mattie Moore, a 67 year-old woman who suffered from Alzheimer's
11 disease, in June, 2004, the City of Atlanta enacted an ordinance to create the Mattie Call
12 program for Atlanta; and

13 WHEREAS, by increasing the public's awareness of the unique challenges faced by this
14 special population and providing a quick and effective means of disseminating information
15 to the general public in the event of a disappearance, this program is helping to avert future
16 tragedies like that suffered by Mrs. Moore, who was last sighted in a neighborhood just three
17 miles from her home but whose residents were not aware of her condition; and

18 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is taking steps to incorporate a Mattie Call system in
19 communities across the state, creating a state-wide network that coordinates and facilitates
20 the efforts of law enforcement, media, civic groups, local businesses, and caregivers when
21 a loved one goes missing; and

22 WHEREAS, over five million people in the United States have Alzheimer's disease, and that
23 number is expected to triple by 2050 as the nation's population ages; and

1 WHEREAS, well over 50 percent of these people will wander and become lost, an incident
2 which always represents a critical emergency; and

3 WHEREAS, creating a national alert system for missing adults who suffer from Alzheimer's
4 disease, Autism, dementia, and other cognitive and mental impairments would greatly
5 increase the safety of these individuals and provide greater peace of mind to their families
6 and caregivers.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
8 the members of this body urge Congress to consider legislation establishing a national alert
9 system for missing disabled adults similar to the "PROTECT Act of 2003."

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
11 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to each member of the Georgia
12 Congressional Delegation.