

House Resolution 675

By: Representative Buckner of the 130th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the need for an improved system of stroke care for all Georgia residents; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, according to the American Stroke Association, strokes are the third leading
4 cause of death in the United States, striking about 700,000 Americans each year; and

5 WHEREAS, stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability in the United States
6 with about 4.8 million stroke survivors today; and

7 WHEREAS, in 2004 the estimated direct and indirect cost of stroke is about \$53.6 billion
8 dollars; and

9 WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academy of Science has
10 concluded that the fragmentation of the delivery of health care services frequently results in
11 less than optimal treatment, safety concerns, and inefficient use of health care resources; and

12 WHEREAS, the IOM recommended the establishment of coordinated systems of care that
13 integrate preventative and treatment services and promote patient access to evidence based
14 care; and

15 WHEREAS, according to the American Stroke Association, research into a systems approach
16 is necessary to effectuate true change in the way stroke is treated statewide so that patients
17 have access to the most advanced treatment in centers that are best designed and equipped
18 to deal with the critical and time sensitive needs of stroke patients; and

19 WHEREAS, the main purpose of stroke systems legislation is to establish a systems
20 approach to dealing with stroke patients, including assessing center designations, EMS
21 protocols and field triage, interfacility stroke transfer, and stroke data collection.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 the members of this body recognize the need for an improved system of stroke care for all
3 state residents.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
5 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to Governor Sonny Perdue and
6 the American Stroke Association.