

## House Resolution 1730 (FLOOR SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Willard of the 49<sup>th</sup> and Orrock of the 58<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing Critical Conditions Health Decisions Month in Georgia; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, it is vitally important for an individual to consider health care decisions that  
3 may arise in the future; and
- 4 WHEREAS, health care planning is a process, rather than a single decision, that helps people  
5 consider the kind of care they would want to receive in the event of a serious illness or  
6 incapacitation, encourages them to discuss these issues with their loved ones and physicians,  
7 and assists them in documenting their wishes in writing; and
- 8 WHEREAS, advance directives give individuals the ability to document their wishes relating  
9 to health care decisions and to delegate a representative to speak for them should they  
10 become unable to speak for themselves; and
- 11 WHEREAS, introducing these issues in community settings can help people begin  
12 conversations about their health care wishes with a family member, close friend, physician,  
13 or faith leader; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Georgia has a number of local coalitions throughout the state that are working  
15 to involve individuals and families in health care planning through educational forums,  
16 discussion groups, speakers' bureaus, and training; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Georgia's "Critical Conditions" program, which has received national  
18 recognition as one of the most comprehensive advanced-care planning programs in the  
19 nation, is being utilized by over 100 facilities, Georgia's area agencies on aging, and public  
20 health offices throughout the state to help Georgians discuss and plan for their care at the end  
21 of life.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
2 this body recognizes November of each year as Critical Conditions Health Decisions Month  
3 in Georgia.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body encourages all citizens to think about and talk  
5 with loved ones about their wishes for medical care.