

House Resolution 1771

By: Representatives Lindsey of the 54th, Ashe of the 56th, Gardner of the 57th, Jones of the 44th, Willard of the 49th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Declaring March 23, 2010, as March of Dimes Georgia Chapter Day at the state capitol and
2 inviting representatives from the March of Dimes to be recognized by the House of
3 Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, millions of Americans, including many Georgians, are impacted annually by
5 birth defects, many of which are caused from premature births; and

6 WHEREAS, the March of Dimes was established in 1938 by President Franklin Roosevelt
7 as an effort to help save America's youth from polio and was based upon the premise that
8 people can solve problems if they work together; and

9 WHEREAS, President Roosevelt created a partnership of volunteers and researchers, who
10 helped create the Salk vaccine for the elimination of polio; and

11 WHEREAS, the vision and mission of the March of Dimes greatly changed in the 1960's
12 through the work of Dr. Virginia Apgar, an obstetrical anesthesiologist best known for
13 developing the Apgar Score system which is used to evaluate the physical condition of
14 newborns at birth, changing the organization's focus from curing polio to preventing birth
15 defects and other infant health problems; and

16 WHEREAS, the March of Dimes informs expectant parents on choices they can make to
17 increase their chances of having a healthy baby through education programs in areas such as
18 prenatal testing and nutrition during pregnancy; and

19 WHEREAS, the March of Dimes and its many dedicated volunteers work tirelessly raising
20 funds through various initiatives, including its March for Babies, which helps fund programs
21 for pregnant women and babies; and

22 WHEREAS, through partnerships with communities and businesses, the March of Dimes has
23 saved millions of babies over the past 72 years and looks forward to a time when all babies
24 are born healthy; and

25 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
26 distinguished organization and its volunteers be appropriately recognized for their work on
27 helping pregnant women and babies and their fight against the causes and incidents of
28 premature births.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body commend the March of Dimes and its selfless volunteers for their
31 past, present, and future work on behalf of mothers and babies in this state, throughout our
32 nation, and around the world; recognize March 23, 2010, as March of Dimes Georgia
33 Chapter Day at the state capitol; and invite representatives from March of Dimes to be
34 recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the
35 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the March of Dimes Georgia
38 Chapter.