

## House Resolution 124

By: Representatives Benfield of the 85<sup>th</sup>, Neal of the 1<sup>st</sup>, Drenner of the 86<sup>th</sup>, Gardner of the 57<sup>th</sup>, and Morgan of the 39<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Declaring March 2, 2009, as Methadone Treatment Awareness Day at the state capitol; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, opiate addiction continues to increase at an alarming rate with more than one  
4 million people currently addicted; and

5 WHEREAS, untreated opiate addiction has devastating financial ramifications for families,  
6 healthcare systems, and judicial systems, costing billions of dollars annually; and

7 WHEREAS, untreated opiate addiction destroys the fabric of families upon which our  
8 society is founded; and

9 WHEREAS, methadone treatment has been proven to be the most effective treatment for  
10 opiate addiction, with beneficial outcomes of decreasing drug use, lowering crime rates,  
11 decreasing medical care costs, and decreasing the further spread of HIV, AIDS, and hepatitis;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, methadone treatment facilities employ healthcare professionals dedicated to  
14 helping their patients rehabilitate their lives to become productive members of society; and

15 WHEREAS, methadone treatment patients, families, friends, medical professionals, and  
16 others interested in the concerns of the opiate addicted population of Georgia will be present  
17 at the capitol on March 2, 2009, to speak with elected officials in order to increase their  
18 understanding of opiate addiction and its treatment.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
20 the members of this body recognize March 2, 2009, as Methadone Treatment Awareness Day  
21 at the state capitol and commend the outstanding professionals dedicated to treating patients  
22 with opiate addictions.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
24 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Opioid Treatment  
25 Providers of Georgia, Inc.