

House Resolution 278

By: Representative Carter of the 159th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Florence Wald and inviting representatives of the
2 Georgia Hospice and Palliative Care Organization to appear before the House of
3 Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of the nation's finest and most
5 distinguished citizens on November 8, 2009, Mrs. Florence Wald; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Wald was a registered nurse, former dean of Yale School of Nursing, and
7 is considered the mother of the hospice movement in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, Mrs. Wald had an impressive career before her work with hospice, a history
9 which included her service as a nurse during World War II, a visiting nurse in New York
10 City, a research assistant, and a college instructor; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1959, Mrs. Wald became the dean of Yale School of Nursing and, in that
12 position, began her life's work caring for the terminally ill; and

13 WHEREAS, during her tenure as dean, Mrs. Wald updated the nursing school curriculum to
14 encourage students to focus on keeping patients and their families actively involved in the
15 care of the patient; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1974, she created Connecticut Hospice, an organized team of nurses, clergy,
17 and doctors dedicated to attending to the needs of dying patients; and

18 WHEREAS, Mrs. Wald's entire family was active in the hospice movement; her children
19 became hospice workers, and her husband focused his master's thesis on hospital planning,
20 which served as the blueprint for Connecticut Hospice; and

21 WHEREAS, Mrs. Wald delayed her own retirement for many years to spread the hospice and
22 palliative care mission throughout the United States, making hospice available to those
23 incarcerated in prisons and training inmates to become hospice volunteers for dying inmates;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, her great achievements and contributions in hospice care, civil rights, and the
26 rights of women, patients, and veterans have been recognized with her induction in the
27 National Women's Hall of Fame; and

28 WHEREAS, due to the life work of Mrs. Wald, there are approximate 3,200 hospice
29 programs in the United States, serving over 900,000 patients annually, and 168 of these
30 programs are located in Georgia, attending to over 27,000 individuals each year; and

31 WHEREAS, the hospice programs in Georgia are represented by the Georgia Hospice and
32 Palliative Care Organization, which was founded in 1979 to encourage and promote the
33 availability of high quality, compassionate care for the terminally ill and their families.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Florence Wald for
36 her dedicated service to the people of this country.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that the
38 members of this body join in commending the work of the Georgia Hospice and Palliative
39 Care Organization and invite its representatives to appear before the House of
40 Representatives to receive an appropriate copy of this resolution at a date and time to be
41 designated by the Speaker of the House.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
43 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mrs. Florence
44 Wald.