

House Resolution 123

By: Representatives Lindsey of the 54th, Jones of the 46th, Riley of the 50th, Oliver of the 83rd, and Wilkinson of the 52nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Declaring February 7, 2011, as March of Dimes Georgia Chapter Day at the state capitol; and
2 for other purposes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

21 WHEREAS, through partnerships with communities and businesses, the March of Dimes has
22 saved millions of babies over the past 73 years and looks forward to a time when all babies
23 are born healthy; and

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

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
29 the members of this body commend the March of Dimes and its selfless volunteers for their
30 past, present, and future work on behalf of mothers and babies in this state, throughout our
31 nation, and around the world and recognize February 7, 2011, as March of Dimes Georgia
32 Chapter Day at the state capitol.

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