

## House Resolution 123

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

## 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.