

## House Resolution 438

By: Representatives Parent of the 81<sup>st</sup>, Benfield of the 85<sup>th</sup>, Harrell of the 106<sup>th</sup>, Gardner of the 57<sup>th</sup>, Neal of the 1<sup>st</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Kate's Club for its outstanding service to youth and recognizing March 1,  
2 2011, as Kate's Club's inaugural Grief Awareness Day, a day for the entire community to  
3 support the thousands of grieving children in Georgia, shine a light on the issue, and share  
4 resources available for healing; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, Kate's Club is a nonprofit organization that empowers children and teens facing  
6 life after the death of a parent or sibling; and

7 WHEREAS, by creating friendships with kids and young adults that share the experience of  
8 loss, Kate's Club guides children through their grief journey in a comfortable, safe, and  
9 uplifting setting; and

10 WHEREAS, Kate's Club was founded by Kate Atwood in June of 2003 with six children,  
11 their families, and an outing to a local bowling alley; and

12 WHEREAS, since that time, Kate's Club has touched the lives of around 400 children and  
13 over 100 volunteers and has a curriculum of four main programs providing social,  
14 recreational, and emotional support to participants; and

15 WHEREAS, studies show that there are thousands of children in the metro Atlanta that are  
16 dealing with the loss of a loved one; and

17 WHEREAS, the approach of Kate's Club is based on four cornerstones, all of which support  
18 the purpose of providing grieving children and their families with an environment where they  
19 can re-engage in life and turn a potentially debilitating loss into a growth opportunity; and

20 WHEREAS, Kate's Club provides a critical service to youth, their families, and communities,  
21 and it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding work of this fine organization and  
22 its numerous contributions to the citizens of this state be appropriately recognized.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
24 the members of this body recognize March 1, 2011, as Kate's Club's inaugural Grief  
25 Awareness Day and commend Kate's Club, its founder Kate Atwood, its board of directors,  
26 its staff, its members and members of the LEAD Atlanta Class of 2011, Lindsey James,  
27 Megan Holder, Erin Coleman, Zack Deming, Courtney English, Victoria Ferguson, Ellen  
28 Hunter, and Brian Smith, who worked with Kate's Club to create the programming and  
29 content of the first Grief Awareness Day.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
31 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Emily Hawkins, Executive  
32 Director of Kate's Club.