

## House Resolution 1244

By: Representatives Cooper of the 41<sup>st</sup>, Jerguson of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Clark of the 104<sup>th</sup>, Hatchett of the 143<sup>rd</sup>, Taylor of the 173<sup>rd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Wednesday, February 15, 2012, as Lupus Awareness Day at the state capitol;  
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on Wednesday, February 15, 2012, Representative Sharon Cooper and the  
4 Georgia Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America will host Lupus Awareness Day at the  
5 state capitol; and

6 WHEREAS, lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that attacks the body's cells and tissues,  
7 resulting in inflammation, pain, and tissue damage; and

8 WHEREAS, at least 1.5 million Americans, including approximately 55,000 Georgians, are  
9 currently living with lupus; and

10 WHEREAS, lupus is a major health issue that has a significant impact on the economy of  
11 this state and takes an immeasurable physical, financial, and emotional toll on many families  
12 in Georgia; and

13 WHEREAS, there have been no new drugs developed for the treatment of lupus in over 50  
14 years; and

15 WHEREAS, the effects of lupus on a family can be devastating in that it is a chronic,  
16 lifelong, and life-threatening disease, and despite its prevalence, it remains one of the least  
17 recognizable and most misunderstood diseases; and

18 WHEREAS, lupus affects primarily young women in their crucial childbearing years, but it  
19 can also affect men, children, and women of all ages; and

20 WHEREAS, the Lupus Foundation of America is the nation's leading nonprofit voluntary  
21 health organization, dedicated to finding the causes and a cure for lupus while providing  
22 support and services to all people affected by lupus; and

23 WHEREAS, 90 percent of every dollar raised by the Georgia Chapter of the Lupus  
24 Foundation of America stays in Georgia to support the chapter's programs; and

25 WHEREAS, the Lupus Foundation of America provides resources for thousands of patients  
26 and families, including support and information, physician referrals, public and professional  
27 education, and grassroots advocacy on the state and federal level.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
29 the members of this body commend the work of the Lupus Foundation of America and other  
30 organizations devoted to finding a cure for lupus and to supporting the individuals and  
31 families whose lives are affected by this autoimmune disease and recognize Wednesday,  
32 February 15, 2012, as Lupus Awareness 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 Georgia Chapter of the  
35 Lupus Foundation of America.