

House Resolution 1897

By: Representatives Dempsey of the 13th, Watson of the 163rd, and Harden of the 147th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing August 26 through September 1, 2012, as Anaphylaxis Awareness Week at the
2 capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, as many as 15 million Americans have food allergies, nearly six million of
4 whom are under the age of 18; and

5 WHEREAS, research shows that the prevalence of food allergies is increasing among
6 children; and

7 WHEREAS, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, food
8 allergy reactions result in more than 300,000 ambulatory care visits each year involving a
9 child under the age of 18; and

10 WHEREAS, a food allergy reaction occurs when an individual unknowingly eats a food
11 containing an ingredient to which he or she is allergic; and

12 WHEREAS, there is no cure for a food allergy and scientists do not understand why food
13 allergies occur; and

14 WHEREAS, strict avoidance of the offending food is the only way to prevent an allergic
15 reaction; and

16 WHEREAS, anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause
17 death; and

18 WHEREAS, up to 25 percent of all reactions in school settings involve students and adult
19 staffers whose risk for anaphylaxis is unknown at the time of the event; and

20 WHEREAS, children and adult staff should have epinephrine auto-injectors made available
21 to them at school, so as to protect a life in the tragic event of anaphylaxis.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
23 the members of this body recognize the importance of student health in elementary and
24 secondary education, encourage Georgia law to authorize at-risk students to carry and
25 self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine, and recognize August 26 through September 1,
26 2012, as Anaphylaxis Awareness Week at the capitol.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
28 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the public and the press.