

House Resolution 826

By: Representatives Tankersley of the 160th, Ehrhart of the 36th, Parrish of the 158th, Stephens of the 164th, and Werkheiser of the 157th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States, the National Institutes of Health, and its National
2 Cancer Institute to increase funding for childhood cancer research and to continue their
3 support for pediatric clinical trials in Georgia; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the members of this body would urge the Congress of the United States, the
5 National Institutes of Health, and its National Cancer Institute to increase funding for
6 childhood cancer research and continue their support for pediatric clinical trials in Georgia
7 and of the research efforts of hospitals and medical oncology groups practicing in Georgia
8 so that the treatment of Georgia's children may continue to improve and they may flourish
9 in their health and education to become productive citizens of this great state; and

10 WHEREAS, about one in 300 boys and one in 333 girls will develop cancer before their 20th
11 birthday, including over 500 Georgia children and adolescents annually; and

12 WHEREAS, cure rates for childhood cancer have risen from less than 10 percent in the
13 1960s to over 80 percent today, due to research in medical interventions and early detection;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, osteosarcoma is the most common type of bone cancer diagnosed among
16 children and adolescents in Georgia, accounting for 56.8 percent of all pediatric bone tumors
17 between 2003 and 2012; and

18 WHEREAS, adolescents between 15 and 19 years of age are more commonly diagnosed, and
19 between 2001 and 2011 there was an average of 21 cases per year of bone cancer among
20 children and adolescents in Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, pediatric oncologists recommend that adolescents receive age-appropriate
22 treatment, including access to clinical trials through pediatric oncology centers, and Georgia
23 has three outstanding centers where specialized treatment and clinical trials are available for

24 children and adolescents with bone cancers: Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Service at
25 Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Georgia Regents University in Augusta, and Memorial
26 University Medical Center in Savannah; and

27 WHEREAS, these centers have active clinical trials for bone cancer and provide access to
28 the latest treatment options for children and adolescents; and

29 WHEREAS, all three centers are also affiliated with Georgia Center for Oncology Research
30 and Education and its state-wide research network and list their clinical trials on
31 GeorgiaCancerInfo.org so they may be widely available to all Georgians, regardless of where
32 they live; and

33 WHEREAS, the members of this body wish to acknowledge, commend, and applaud the
34 work of the three specialty centers in Georgia that treat pediatric oncological patients, as well
35 as the extensive network of community hospitals and medical centers which extend the work
36 of their expertise, and further express its appreciation for the clinical trials already available
37 to our citizens.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
39 the members of this body urge the United States Congress, the National Institutes of Health,
40 and its National Cancer Institute to increase funding for childhood cancer research to
41 continue their support for pediatric clinical trials in Georgia and of the research efforts of
42 hospitals and medical oncology groups practicing in Georgia.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
44 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
45 United States Congress, the National Institutes of Health, and its National Cancer Institute.