

## House Resolution 1227

By: Representatives Waites of the 60<sup>th</sup>, Thomas of the 56<sup>th</sup>, Dawkins-Haigler of the 91<sup>st</sup>,  
Randall of the 142<sup>nd</sup>, and Stovall of the 74<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February, 2016, as American Heart Month in Georgia and encouraging citizens  
2 to work together to promote and improve the health of Georgians and to increase awareness  
3 and understanding of heart disease; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia celebrates the extraordinary progress in heart health and  
5 recognizes that more needs to be done in Georgia to safeguard heart health for generations  
6 to come; and

7 WHEREAS, approximately 85 million Americans are affected by major cardiovascular  
8 disease; and

9 WHEREAS, Georgia ranked 11th in the country for the highest number of deaths related to  
10 heart disease in 2014 and 2015, and there are approximately 750,000 heart attacks in the  
11 United States and more than 7,400 in Georgia annually; and

12 WHEREAS, there are more than 370,000 out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrests in the United  
13 States and approximately 10,000 in Georgia annually, and the survival rate for  
14 out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrests averages approximately 10 percent annually; and

15 WHEREAS, heart disease is the number one killer of Americans and Georgians, with more  
16 than 610,000 American lives and 22,000 Georgia lives lost to major cardiovascular disease  
17 annually; and

18 WHEREAS, the risk factors for heart disease are smoking, high blood pressure, high  
19 cholesterol and triglyceride levels, obesity, physical inactivity, diabetes, a family history of  
20 early heart disease, and age; and

21 WHEREAS, Georgians can take action to protect their heart health and prevent heart disease  
22 by taking steps to prevent and control the risk factors; and

23 WHEREAS, keeping Georgians healthy and promoting awareness of health issues, including  
24 heart disease, are important responsibilities that depend on the actions of many organizations  
25 and groups in our community; and

26 WHEREAS, heart health remains a priority for families, communities, and the government,  
27 and our commitment to keep Georgians healthy and empowered is stronger than ever.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
29 the members of this body recognize February, 2016, as American Heart Month in Georgia  
30 and encourage citizens to work together to promote and improve the health of Georgians and  
31 to increase awareness and understanding of heart disease.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
33 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
34 public and the press.