

## House Resolution 1254

By: Representatives Stephens of the 165<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Petrea of the 166<sup>th</sup>, Gordon of the 163<sup>rd</sup>, Parrish of the 158<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Encouraging Medicaid care management organizations operating in Georgia to cover certain  
2 attention deficit hyperactivity disorder medications; and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, effective October 1, 2015, the Georgia Medicaid Care Management  
4 Organization, WellCare, and its pharmacy benefit manager, CareMark, removed the drug  
5 Vyvanse from its Preferred Drug Listing for Medicaid patients in Georgia; and
- 6 WHEREAS, more than 7,000 Medicaid patients in Georgia were impacted by this decision  
7 and no longer have reasonable access to Vyvanse as a treatment option for attention deficit  
8 hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); and
- 9 WHEREAS, WellCare patients must now fail a trial on two other preferred drugs before  
10 receiving approval for Vyvanse; and
- 11 WHEREAS, the timing of this action occurred during the back-to-school period and placed  
12 increased stress on patients and their families, physicians, and pharmacists; and
- 13 WHEREAS, this action by WellCare will decrease federally mandated Medicaid drug rebates  
14 paid directly to the State of Georgia and will result in an estimated \$3,528,107.00 net loss  
15 to the state per year; and
- 16 WHEREAS, according to the Food and Drug Administration full prescribing information,  
17 Vyvanse has demonstrated efficacy in patients ages six years and older with ADHD; and
- 18 WHEREAS, a clinical study evaluating pediatric patients treated with Vyvanse showed a  
19 statistically significant ADHD attention improvement on a validated standardized classroom  
20 assessment tool that measures behavior problems leading to classroom disruptions,  
21 demonstrated from 1.5 hours to 13 hours post-dose compared to placebo; and

22 WHEREAS, a clinical study evaluating adult patients treated with Vyvanse showed a  
23 statistically significant ADHD attention improvement in a validated, skill adjusted math test  
24 as demonstrated from all post-dose sessions measured from 12 to 24 hours compared to  
25 placebo; and

26 WHEREAS, Vyvanse is preferred by many physicians as the drug of choice for patients with  
27 ADHD and the decision to remove Vyvanse as a preferred drug within Medicaid Managed  
28 Care plans limits physicians' options to serve their patients; and

29 WHEREAS, according to the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists,  
30 immediate-release stimulant medications have the disadvantage that they must be taken two  
31 to three times per day to control ADHD symptoms throughout the day; and

32 WHEREAS, according to the Georgia Association of School Nurses, the availability of  
33 extended-release medications, such as Vyvanase, has dramatically reduced the need for  
34 school nurses to store and dispense ADHD medications during the school day; and

35 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia covers Vyvanse for state Medicaid patients and there are  
36 now inconsistencies in coverage for patients taking Vyvanse as they transition from  
37 Fee-for-Service Medicaid to Medicaid Managed Care due to the misalignment of coverage  
38 between the state's Medicaid preferred drug list and WellCare's Managed Medicaid preferred  
39 drug list.

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
41 the members of this body urge the Georgia Department of Community Health to insist that  
42 Medicaid care management organizations operating in Georgia provide full coverage for  
43 extended-release ADHD medications, including Vyvanse, and to include Vyvanse on  
44 preferred drug listings for Medicaid Managed Care patients.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
46 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Clyde  
47 L. Reese III, Esq., Commissioner, Georgia Department of Community Health and to  
48 Medicaid care management organizations operating in Georgia.