

House Resolution 1672

By: Representatives Oliver of the 82nd, Blackmon of the 146th, Tankersley of the 160th, Parrish of the 158th, Hatchett of the 150th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Lymphoma Research Foundation as the nation's only nonprofit
2 organization devoted totally to innovative research to find a cure for this specific disease, and
3 recognizing the Georgia Lymphoma Walk on April 16, 2016, as Cure Lymphoma Day in
4 Georgia; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, every seven minutes someone in America is diagnosed with one of the 65 types
6 of lymphoma; and

7 WHEREAS, lymphoma, the most common form of blood cancer in adults and the third most
8 common of all cancers in children, occurs when lymphocytes - white blood cells that help
9 protect the body from infection and disease - begin behaving abnormally; and

10 WHEREAS, at this time there is no widely recommended screening tests for this cancer, so
11 the public needs to be educated about signs and symptoms of the disease; and

12 WHEREAS, there are two kinds of lymphomas, Hodgkin and Non-Hodgkin, which differ
13 in how they behave, spread, and respond to treatment, so it is important to tell them apart
14 with sensitive lab tests; and

15 WHEREAS, both children and adults can develop lymphoma, primarily in lymph nodes or
16 lymphoid tissue, but also other parts of the body, and a cure for this disease will affect people
17 of all ages; and

18 WHEREAS, Hodgkin lymphoma occurs in both children and adults, but it is most common
19 in early adulthood, ages 15 to 40, primarily persons in their 20's, and roughly 1 out of 9
20 lymphoma patients are Hodgkin, with 10 to 15 percent of those being children and teenagers,
21 with a total of 8,500 new cases predicted for 2016; and

22 WHEREAS, Non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) is one of the most common cancers in the
23 United States, and the American Cancer Society estimates in 2016 about 72,580 adults and
24 children will be diagnosed with NHL; and

25 WHEREAS, 8 out of 9 lymphoma diagnoses are NHL and the average American's risk
26 during his or her lifetime is 1 in 50, and roughly 20,150 people will die from this cancer,
27 11,520 males and 8,630 females, in 2016; and

28 WHEREAS, due to advances in treatment, survival rates have improved in the past few
29 decades, and death rates from NHL have been decreasing since the late 1990s; and

30 WHEREAS, more than half a million Americans are now living with some form of
31 lymphoma, and a cure can only be realized through advanced research; and

32 WHEREAS, the Lymphoma Research Foundation's vital mission is eradicating lymphoma,
33 and 86 percent of its funding goes directly into research to find a cure for lymphoma; and

34 WHEREAS, the Foundation's volunteer Scientific Advisory Board comprises 45
35 world-renowned lymphoma experts, including the head of the Lymphoma Department at
36 Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, who guide the Foundation's research
37 activities, seeking out the most innovative and promising lymphoma research projects for
38 support.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
40 the members of this body commend the Lymphoma Research Foundation for its Georgia
41 Walk to Find a Cure, and recognize April 16, 2016, as Cure Lymphoma Day in Georgia.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
43 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
44 volunteer LRF Georgia Lymphoma Walk Organizing Committee.