

House Resolution 481

By: Representative Dreyer of the 59th

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging the people of Georgia to keep their pets safe in hot weather by leaving them at
2 home if they would otherwise be unattended in a vehicle; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, domestic animals have provided companionship to people for centuries,
4 providing many benefits to their families such as love, loyalty, and an improved sense of
5 well-being; and

6 WHEREAS, many pet owners mistakenly believe an animal can be left comfortably or safely
7 in an unattended motor vehicle; and

8 WHEREAS, cars heat up quickly, even with the windows down; on a 72 degree day, a car's
9 internal temperature can heat up to 116 degrees within an hour, and on an 80 degree day, a
10 car's internal temperature can shoot up to a sweltering 99 degrees in just 10 minutes; and

11 WHEREAS, pets have a higher body temperature than humans and mostly cool themselves
12 through panting, and humidity of just 35 percent can slow or shut down their ability to
13 evaporate moisture and control their body temperature; and

14 WHEREAS, every year, thousands of our companion animals succumb to heatstroke in hot,
15 unattended vehicles; and

16 WHEREAS, there are times that concerned citizens and law enforcement cannot locate the
17 car's owner in time to take the necessary steps to keep the animal safe and pets suffer injury
18 and even needless, agonizing death.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
20 the members of this body encourage the people of Georgia to keep their pets safe in hot
21 weather by leaving them at home if they would otherwise be unattended in a vehicle.

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