

House Resolution 1016

By: Representatives Bennett of the 94th, Cooper of the 43rd, Smyre of the 135th, Frazier of the 126th, Hugley of the 136th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and proclaiming the necessity for diabetes education in this state; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, more than 29 million adults in the United States have diabetes and
4 approximately 86 million American adults have prediabetes; and

5 WHEREAS, approximately 1,121,495 people in Georgia have diabetes, of these, an
6 estimated 241,000 have diabetes but do not know it. Approximately 2,599,000 people
7 receive a diagnosis of prediabetes and every year an estimated 53,000 people in Georgia are
8 diagnosed with diabetes; and

9 WHEREAS, diabetes and prediabetes cost an estimated \$9.9 billion in Georgia each year.
10 The total direct medical expenses for diagnosed and undiagnosed diabetes, prediabetes, and
11 gestational diabetes in Georgia was estimated to be \$7.5 billion and another \$2.4 billion was
12 spent on indirect costs from lost productivity due to diabetes; and

13 WHEREAS, emergency room visits related to diabetes increased by 65 percent in the last ten
14 years and in 2016 there was a 17 percent increase in just one year; and

15 WHEREAS, Georgia only has 96 diabetes self-management education and support programs
16 and 28 recognized national diabetes prevention lifestyle change programs to cover the
17 diabetes and prediabetes populations; and

18 WHEREAS, everyone deserves the same opportunity to lead a long and productive life, to
19 access fresh healthy foods, and to live in safe communities where they can walk, bike, and
20 be physically active; and

21 WHEREAS, improving the health of all Georgians will require developing strategic
22 partnerships, engaging stakeholders at all levels, and promoting a health in all policies

23 approach to improving the physical and social environments that affect everyone's health
24 within Georgia.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
26 the members of this body encourage the Department of Public Health and the Department
27 of Community Health to work together around the State Health Benefit Plan and Medicaid
28 to expand coverage of accredited diabetes self-management education and support programs
29 and the national diabetes prevention lifestyle change programs.

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