

Senate Resolution 888

By: Senators Millar of the 40th, Unterman of the 45th and Hufstetler of the 52nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing November, 2018 as Diabetes & Cardiovascular Disease Awareness Month at
2 the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, diabetes affects more than 29 million Americans and is a chronic condition that
4 occurs when the body does not properly produce or use insulin, the hormone that regulates
5 blood sugar; and

6 WHEREAS, type 2 diabetes is the most common type of diabetes, representing an estimated
7 90 to 95 percent of all adult diabetes cases diagnosed in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States with eight
9 million Americans going undiagnosed and more than 5,000 Americans being diagnosed each
10 day; and

11 WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death associated with diabetes,
12 owing to complications associated with diabetes, such as high blood sugar, high blood
13 pressure, and obesity; and

14 WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease is a term used to define problems with the heart and
15 blood vessels, such as heart attacks, heart failure, and strokes; and

16 WHEREAS, people with type 2 diabetes are at two to four times greater risk for developing
17 cardiovascular disease, and findings from a recent study reveal that 52 percent of adults
18 living with type 2 diabetes are unaware they are at an increased risk; and

19 WHEREAS, in the United States, two out of three deaths in people with type 2 diabetes are
20 attributed to cardiovascular disease, accounting for 68 percent of deaths in people with type 2
21 diabetes; and

22 WHEREAS, in 2013, the total health care costs for the treatment of diabetes were reported
23 to be approximately \$245 billion annually, with direct medical costs accounting for \$176
24 billion of the total costs and cardiovascular disease accounting for 28 percent of the costs for
25 treating diabetes; and

26 WHEREAS, in the State of Georgia, the amount paid by Medicare for type 2 diabetes and
27 cardiovascular disease totals \$50,295,411 for 4,017 beneficiaries, with prevalence reaching
28 8.4 percent; and

29 WHEREAS, 10.7 percent of the African American population in Georgia's Medicare
30 community has type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and the amount paid by Medicare
31 for these diseases in the state totals \$325,427,207 for 21,720 beneficiaries; and

32 WHEREAS, 6.5 percent of the Hispanic population in Georgia's Medicare community has
33 type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and the amount paid by Medicare in the state
34 totals \$5,372,615 for 420 beneficiaries; and

35 WHEREAS, appropriate awareness and education about the cardiovascular risks associated
36 with diabetes can effectively improve individuals' overall health outcomes and reduce the
37 financial burdens of the illness; and

38 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Public Health and other relevant partners seek to
39 promote awareness, education, and action related to diabetes and its link to cardiovascular
40 disease.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
42 recognize November, 2018 as Diabetes & Cardiovascular Disease Awareness Month at the
43 state capitol and encourage others to promote education and awareness of the connection
44 between diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
46 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
47 press.