

House Resolution 1292

By: Representatives Cooper of the 43rd, Silcox of the 52nd, Newton of the 123rd, Douglas of the 78th, and Price of the 48th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Georgia Alzheimer's and Related Dementia Advisory Council and its work groups
2 to study providing access to quality long-term care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease
3 or other related dementia; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, long-term care, including nursing homes, assisted living homes, personal care
5 homes, and in-home caregiving, serves a vital role in ensuring the health of all citizens of this
6 state, especially those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia; and

7 WHEREAS, the long duration of illness and therefore disability and dependence for
8 Alzheimer's disease and related dementia lead many families to seek long-term caregiving
9 assistance; and

10 WHEREAS, approximately 61 percent of nursing home residents have moderate or severe
11 cognitive impairment; and

12 WHEREAS, caregiving for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia,
13 whether at home with assistance or in a personal care home, assisted living home, or nursing
14 home, is uniquely challenging; and

15 WHEREAS, given the current regulatory environment, it is often challenging for long-term
16 care facilities to accept a patient with dementia related behavioral challenges; and

17 WHEREAS, it is often these behavioral challenges that cause the family of the patient with
18 Alzheimer's disease or related dementia to place such patient in a long-term care facility; and

19 WHEREAS, Georgia wants to create and maintain an environment which strikes the right
20 balance of regulations and payments to ensure that organizations and facilities are able to
21 provide dementia friendly care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia seeks to align the needs of individuals with Alzheimer's
24 disease and related dementia, their caregivers, long-term care providers, and the state;
25 therefore, it would be beneficial to review the strengths and weaknesses of the current
26 regulations as well as assess opportunities for improving long-term care in the state.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
28 the members of this body urge the Georgia Alzheimer's and Related Dementia Advisory
29 Council and its work groups to study providing access to quality long-term care for
30 individuals with Alzheimer's disease or other related dementia.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
32 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
33 Georgia Alzheimer's and Related Dementia Advisory Council.