

## House Resolution 1051

By: Representatives Efration of the 104<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 134<sup>th</sup>, England of the 116<sup>th</sup>, Cooper of the 43<sup>rd</sup>, and Trammell of the 132<sup>nd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 10, 2020, as Alzheimer's Awareness Day in Georgia; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia; it makes up 60 to  
4 80 percent of all dementia cases; and

5 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's is not a normal part of aging, it is a progressive brain disease that  
6 gets worse over time; and

7 WHEREAS, because Alzheimer's is accompanied by memory loss, changes in personality  
8 and behavior, and a tendency to wander, individuals with this disease are at an increased risk  
9 for accidental injury, getting lost, and being abused, neglected, and exploited; and

10 WHEREAS, research shows that one in ten people over the age of 65 and 5.8 million people  
11 nationwide have Alzheimer's disease or other dementias; in Georgia, there are more than  
12 150,000 Georgians living with an Alzheimer's diagnosis; and

13 WHEREAS, the number of persons with Alzheimer's disease in Georgia is expected to  
14 increase by 27.6 percent in the next five years; and

15 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease takes an enormous toll on loving family members with an  
16 estimated 533,000 family caregivers in Georgia providing 6.1 million hours of unpaid care  
17 valued at over \$7.5 billion; and

18 WHEREAS, caregivers for individuals with Alzheimer's closely watch the effects of the  
19 disease on their loved one and often suffer more stress, depression, and health problems than  
20 other caregivers, amounting to more than \$317 million in higher caregiver health costs; and

21 WHEREAS, forty-two percent of people living in residential care facilities, such as assisted  
22 living facilities and personal care homes, have an Alzheimer's diagnosis; and

23 WHEREAS, there is an increasing amount of individuals developing younger-onset  
24 Alzheimer's disease, a form of the disease that occurs prior to age 65 that can be particularly  
25 difficult on family dynamics and economics due to the early age onset of the disease; and

26 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death in Georgia, amounting to more  
27 than \$1 billion in annual state Medicaid costs; and

28 WHEREAS, there is an economic impact of Alzheimer's disease upon the business, medical,  
29 and caregiver communities of Georgia; and

30 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia and the Alzheimer's Association Georgia Chapter commit  
31 a day of awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias to address the needs of this  
32 growing segment of Georgia's population.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
34 the members of this body recognize February 10, 2020, as Alzheimer's Awareness Day in  
35 Georgia.

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