

House Resolution 1373

By: Representatives Dempsey of the 13th, Jones of the 47th, Oliver of the 82nd, Gaines of the 117th, and Cooper of the 43rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing May 1, 2020, as Maternal Mental Health Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, maternal mental health is a critically important concern to women, their
4 children and partners, and communities and must be a primary concern for the health and
5 safety of families in the State of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, perinatal mood and anxiety disorders currently cause depression, anxiety,
7 obsessive compulsive thoughts, and/or psychosis in 1 out of 7 Georgian mothers and only 10
8 percent of women with these disorders receive treatment; and

9 WHEREAS, research has shown that untreated maternal depression and anxiety during
10 pregnancy or postpartum negatively affects birth outcomes and infant development,
11 including infant mental health and brain development; and

12 WHEREAS, perinatal mood and anxiety disorders are highly treatable through assessment
13 screenings, therapeutic interventions, community-based support services, and medication;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, increased awareness, education, and resources for screening, assessment,
16 referral, and treatment of perinatal mood and anxiety disorders should be available to all
17 women and their providers throughout the State of Georgia.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
19 the members of this body join maternal mental health support programs such as the
20 Postpartum Support International Georgia Chapter in the belief that public awareness
21 regarding maternal mental health is a public health priority and recognize May 1, 2020, as
22 Maternal Mental Health Day at the state capitol.

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