

House Resolution 1056

By: Representatives Silcox of the 53rd, Cooper of the 45th, Hawkins of the 27th, and Hatchett of the 155th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 22, 2024, as Alzheimer's Awareness Day in Georgia; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the mission of the Alzheimer's Association is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease
4 and all other dementias through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care
5 and support for all those affected by these diseases; and to reduce the risk of dementia
6 through the promotion of brain health; and

7 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging, it is a progressive brain
8 disease that gets worse over time and is the seventh leading cause of death in Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, there are more than 150,000 Georgians over age 65 who have been diagnosed
10 with Alzheimer's disease and who are being cared for by more than 343,000 caregivers who
11 have accumulated over 657 million hours of unpaid care, valued at more than \$9.9 billion;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, there are an increasing number of individuals developing younger-onset
14 Alzheimer's disease, a form of the disease that occurs prior to age 65 and which can be

15 particularly difficult on family dynamics and economics due to the early occurrence of the
16 disease; and

17 WHEREAS, because Alzheimer's disease and related dementias are accompanied by memory
18 loss, changes in personality and behavior, and a tendency to wander, individuals with this
19 disease are at an increased risk for accidental injury, getting lost, and being abused,
20 neglected, and exploited; and

21 WHEREAS, caregiving for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias often
22 takes an enormous toll on family members; caregivers themselves often suffer more stress,
23 depression, and health problems than caregivers of people with other illnesses; and

24 WHEREAS, the Georgia Alzheimer's and Related Dementias State Plan was signed into
25 action in June of 2014, and we recognize the ongoing collaboration and coordination of state
26 agencies to advance the work to create a more dementia-capable Georgia; and

27 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that State of Georgia and the Georgia Chapter
28 of the Alzheimer's Association commit a day to increasing awareness of Alzheimer's disease
29 and other dementias to address the needs of this growing segment of Georgia's population.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body commend the Georgia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and
32 recognize February 22, 2024, as Alzheimer's Awareness Day in Georgia.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
34 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
35 Georgia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.