

House Resolution 472

By: Representatives Gilliard of the 162nd, Howard of the 129th, Davis of the 87th, Scott of the 76th, and Jackson of the 165th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Expressing support for families affected by premature births; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, preterm birth, defined as birth occurring before 37 weeks of gestation, poses
3 significant health risks to infants and places emotional and financial burdens on families; and
- 4 WHEREAS, the incidence of preterm birth continues to rise in various populations,
5 contributing to increased neonatal complications, long-term health challenges, and a greater
6 demand for specialized medical care; and
- 7 WHEREAS, the emotional and psychological toll on parents, particularly mothers, following
8 the birth of a preterm infant frequently results in heightened anxiety, depression, and other
9 mental health concerns that require targeted support and resources; and
- 10 WHEREAS, families of preterm infants often face overwhelming medical expenses,
11 disruptions to family dynamics, and barriers in accessing essential support services, further
12 compounding the challenges of early childhood care; and
- 13 WHEREAS, improving outcomes for premature infants and their families requires a
14 comprehensive strategy that includes increased financial support, expanded access to quality

15 prenatal and neonatal care, enhanced research initiatives, and greater mental health resources;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, ensuring equitable access to medical care, reducing financial burdens, and
18 promoting public awareness of the risks and challenges associated with preterm birth are
19 critical steps toward fostering healthier families and communities.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body express their support for families affected by premature births as
22 well as for efforts and initiatives that improve medical care, financial assistance, and mental
23 health resources for these families.

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