

House Resolution 713

By: Representatives Wade of the 9th, Silcox of the 53rd, Clifton of the 131st, Willis of the 55th, Chastain of the 7th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging healthcare providers across the State of Georgia to help promote the 988 Suicide and
2 Crisis Lifeline; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, behavioral health conditions, including mental and substance use disorders, are
4 critical public health issues, and 988 was established to improve access to crisis services in
5 response to the country's growing suicide and mental health-related crisis care needs; and

6 WHEREAS, the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is a direct, national three-digit number that
7 connects individuals with suicide prevention and mental health crisis resources, which are
8 distinct from the public safety purposes of 911; and

9 WHEREAS, 988 calls, texts, and chats in the State of Georgia are answered by the Georgia
10 Crisis and Access Line (GCAL) 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year; and

11 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
12 is working with a coalition of community partners to educate the public on when and how
13 to use 988; and

14 WHEREAS, healthcare providers often use recorded messages to convey important
15 information to patients, including guidance on when to call 911.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
17 the members of this body urge healthcare providers in the State of Georgia to include
18 information about the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline in the recorded information provided
19 to their patients and other callers.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body further urge the Georgia
21 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities to work with its
22 community partners to develop a script that healthcare providers can use to include
23 information about 988 as part of their recorded messages.

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 Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, the public, and
27 the press.