

House Resolution 133

By: Representatives Dollar of the 45th and Hogan of the 179th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing February as American Heart Month at the state capitol; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia celebrates the extraordinary progress in heart health that
3 has been made in recent years and recognizes that more needs to be done in Georgia to
4 safeguard heart health for generations to come; and
- 5 WHEREAS, approximately 92 million Americans are affected by major cardiovascular
6 disease; and
- 7 WHEREAS, heart disease is the number one killer of Americans and Georgians; and
- 8 WHEREAS, each year, there are more than 350,000 out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrests
9 in the United States and approximately 10,000 in Georgia; and
- 10 WHEREAS, the survival rate for out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest averages 10 percent
11 annually; and
- 12 WHEREAS, 80 percent of all sudden cardiac arrest victims are shown to have underlying
13 heart disease; and
- 14 WHEREAS, survival from sudden cardiac arrest most often depends upon immediate
15 bystander-initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and an early shock from an
16 automatic external defibrillator (AED); and
- 17 WHEREAS, fewer than 40 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims outside of a hospital
18 receive bystander-initiated CPR, and fewer than 2 percent of victims receive a shock from
19 bystander-initiated AED; and

20 WHEREAS, keeping Georgians healthy and promoting awareness of health issues, including
21 heart disease, is an important responsibility and depends on the actions of many
22 organizations and groups in our community; and

23 WHEREAS, the American Heart Month Awareness campaign has been endorsed and
24 sponsored by national groups such as the American Heart Association, the American Red
25 Cross, the National Institutes of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Injury
26 Prevention and is observed by many health care providers and health education advocacy
27 groups; and

28 WHEREAS, Georgians need to take action to make heart health a priority for themselves and
29 their families, become aware of their risk for heart disease, and take action to provide better
30 outcomes in their heart health.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body recognize February as American Heart Month at the state capitol.

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