

House Resolution 1359

By: Representative Thomas of the 65th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the State of Georgia to recognize cannabis as a vital mechanism to alleviating the
2 opioid crisis in the state; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, opioid addiction is a growing problem throughout our nation and state and
4 presents a significant new challenge to our country's medical treatment system; and

5 WHEREAS, the opioid overdose epidemic has cost the state millions of dollars in medical
6 treatment, lost economic productivity, and increased overdose deaths, among other costs; and

7 WHEREAS, providing opioid alternative treatments for patients will reduce the costs borne
8 by this state, reduce the number of Georgians who will become addicted to opioids, and
9 reduce the number of Georgians who will overdose and die of opioid abuse; and

10 WHEREAS, the potential medicinal value of cannabis has received insufficient study, owing
11 to a lack of financial incentives for the undertaking of appropriate research by private drug
12 manufacturing concerns; and

13 WHEREAS, there is expanding evidence that cannabis has therapeutic use in treatment of
14 certain debilitating illnesses; and

15 WHEREAS, cannabis could also be used as a means of alleviation of pain to many people
16 including seniors and veterans; and

17 WHEREAS, encouraging scientific research into the efficacy, doses, routes of
18 administration, and side effects of commonly used and commercially available cannabis
19 products could be a first step toward alleviating the opioid crisis in the state; and

20 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia should recognize cannabis as a vital mechanism to
21 alleviating the opioid crisis in the state and to allow study into the medical benefits of
22 cannabis in a controlled clinical setting.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
24 the members of this urge the State of Georgia to recognize cannabis as a vital mechanism
25 to alleviating the opioid crisis in the state and encouraging scientific research into the
26 medical benefits of cannabis.

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