

House Resolution 449

By: Representatives Cooper of the 45th, Anulewicz of the 42nd, Seabaugh of the 34th, Washburn of the 144th, and Evans of the 89th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Designating Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) is a chronic cardiovascular disease
3 involving thickening of the heart muscle and can potentially lead to debilitating symptoms
4 and serious complications, including heart failure, atrial fibrillation, stroke, and in rare cases
5 sudden cardiac death; and
- 6 WHEREAS, HCM is the most common inheritable form of heart disease and can affect
7 anyone regardless of age, gender, or ethnicity, with a reported prevalence ranging from 1 in
8 200 people to 1 in 500 people in the general population; and
- 9 WHEREAS, an estimated 700,000 people in the United States have HCM, yet 85 percent of
10 them may remain undiagnosed; and
- 11 WHEREAS, HCM shares symptoms with other common cardiovascular and pulmonary
12 diseases, such as shortness of breath, chest pain, fatigue, palpitations, and fainting, making
13 it difficult to distinguish HCM from these other diseases; and

14 WHEREAS, the all-cause mortality risk is three to four times higher in patients with HCM
15 than that of the general population; and

16 WHEREAS, knowing one's medical history and the signs and symptoms of HCM are
17 important first steps in receiving an accurate diagnosis of HCM; and

18 WHEREAS, a healthcare provider must conduct a thorough screening with cardiac health
19 questions to identify a risk of cardiac disorders both genetic and congenital; and

20 WHEREAS, following a diagnosis of HCM, it is important for patients to work with their
21 healthcare provider to learn more about their disease and understand different management
22 options, including prescription medicines and surgical treatment options that may help; and

23 WHEREAS, the fourth Wednesday in February is an appropriate day to observe
24 Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
26 the members of this body:

27 (1) Designate the fourth Wednesday in February of each year as Hypertrophic
28 Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day in the State of Georgia in order to raise public
29 awareness about hypertrophic cardiomyopathy;

30 (2) Acknowledge the critical importance of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy awareness to
31 improve cardiovascular health in the State of Georgia;

32 (3) Support raising awareness of the consequences of undiagnosed and untreated
33 hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and the need to seek appropriate care for hypertrophic
34 cardiomyopathy as a serious public health issue; and

35 (4) Respectfully request the Governor to issue annually a proclamation recognizing the
36 fourth Wednesday in February in the State of Georgia as Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy
37 Awareness Day and call upon the people in the State of Georgia to observe the day with
38 appropriate programs and activities.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to
41 Governor Brian Kemp and the public and the press.