

House Resolution 588

By: Representatives Newton of the 123rd, Hatchett of the 150th, England of the 116th, Jones of the 47th, Bentley of the 139th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Urging the Georgia Department of Public Health to review maternal deaths in this state and
2 to develop strategies for the prevention of maternal deaths in this state; and for other
3 purposes.
- 4 WHEREAS, women in the United States are more likely to die of childbirth or
5 pregnancy-related causes than are women in other high-income countries; and
- 6 WHEREAS, according to numerous organizations that rank mortality rates, Georgia is
7 among the top ten states with the highest maternal death rate; and
- 8 WHEREAS, maternal deaths are a serious public health concern and have a tremendous
9 family and societal impact, affecting diverse populations; and
- 10 WHEREAS, maternal deaths are significantly underestimated and inadequately documented,
11 preventing efforts to identify, reduce, or eliminate the causes of death; and
- 12 WHEREAS, more evidence is needed to better understand the actual causes of maternal
13 death, but research suggests that half of these deaths may be preventable; and
- 14 WHEREAS, there is a need to identify, investigate, and disseminate findings regarding
15 maternal deaths and to develop strategies and institute systemic changes to decrease and
16 prevent maternal deaths in Georgia.
- 17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
18 the members of this body urge the Georgia Department of Public Health to review maternal
19 deaths in this state and to develop strategies for the prevention of maternal deaths in this
20 state.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
22 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
23 Georgia Department of Public Health.