

House Resolution 891

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57th, Taylor of the 173rd, Anulewicz of the 42nd, Rynders of the 152nd, Houston of the 170th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Proclaiming January as Cervical Health Awareness Month; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, cervical cancer is a disease that strikes nearly 13,000 American women each
3 year, most often affecting those in the prime of life; and
- 4 WHEREAS, the rate of cervical cancer is higher in Georgia than the average in the United
5 States; and
- 6 WHEREAS, regular cervical cancer screening tests are effective in detecting the disease
7 early when it can be effectively treated; and
- 8 WHEREAS, approximately 15 percent of women in Georgia have not had one of these tests
9 in the last three years as recommended; and
- 10 WHEREAS, cancer prevention vaccines are available that, together with screening tests,
11 provide a formidable and effective means of preventing this disease; and
- 12 WHEREAS, human papillomavirus infections are a common cause of cervical cancer and
13 human papillomavirus infection vaccinations are a strong safeguard against development of
14 the condition; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Sylvester Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, the Thomas County Health
16 Department, and Wellstar Wellstar Kennestone Pediatric Associates are champions in the
17 fight against cervical cancer, with respective vaccination rates of 96 percent, 99 percent, and
18 89 percent; and
- 19 WHEREAS, increasing awareness among patients and healthcare providers alike regarding
20 the best use of these prevention tools is a key component in safe-guarding women's health;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, it is appropriate to increase awareness of cervical cancer, its victims, its
23 survivors, and its champions by naming January as Cervical Health Awareness Month.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
25 the members of this body do hereby proclaim January as Cervical Health Awareness Month,
26 encourage all of our citizens to recognize that cervical cancer is preventable, encourage and
27 support all women in availing themselves of the tests and vaccines that have proven so
28 effective in preventing cervical cancer, and encourage all parents to consider vaccinating
29 their children against cervical cancer and other cancers. We have the means to eliminate
30 cervical cancer in Georgia; it is incumbent on all of us to insure we have the will to do so.

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