

House Bill 376

By: Representatives Gilligan of the 24th, Silcox of the 52nd, Cooper of the 43rd, Rich of the 97th, Gaines of the 117th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 4 of Title 1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 holidays and observances, so as to provide that September 1 of each year shall be Childhood
3 Cancer Awareness Day in Georgia; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for related
4 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 The General Assembly finds that:

- 8 (1) Childhood cancer is the number one cause of death by disease among children under
9 the age of 19 years;
- 10 (2) Two-thirds of children with cancer will develop a lifelong condition as a result of
11 treatment, and with 12 types and over 100 subtypes of pediatric cancer, 46 children are
12 diagnosed and seven lose their lives every day;
- 13 (3) There are 70 potential life years lost on average when a child dies of cancer compared
14 to 15 potential life years lost for adults;
- 15 (4) Pediatric cancer occurs regularly and randomly among children, sparing no ethnic
16 group, socioeconomic class, or geographic region; and
- 17 (5) Those working in the field of pediatric oncology demonstrate great compassion,
18 understanding, and kindness for the children in their care, and their dedication and
19 commitment to the betterment of the world is appreciated and acknowledged.

20 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

21 Chapter 4 of Title 1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to holidays and
22 observances, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

23 "1-4-23.

24 September 1 of each year is designated as 'Childhood Cancer Awareness Day' in Georgia."

25

SECTION 3.

26 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.