

The Senate Committee on Rules offered the following substitute to HR 279:

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating and setting aside certain days each year in recognition of single parents and
2 childhood cancer awareness; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, parents must invest immeasurable amounts of time, energy, and devotion when
4 raising their children in order to provide them with the love, support, and guidance required
5 to become responsible, productive, and successful adults; and

6 WHEREAS, the responsibility of raising children in today's society is particularly difficult
7 when it falls on the shoulders of a single parent; and

8 WHEREAS, the number of single-parent families has more than doubled in the past 25 years
9 and tripled since 1960; and

10 WHEREAS, one-third of American children, a total of 15 million, are being raised without
11 a father, and nearly five million children live without a mother; and

12 WHEREAS, the greatest need of every child is to be loved, whether the child lives in a
13 single-parent or two-parent family; and

14 WHEREAS, the dedication and achievement of single parents regardless of gender, cultural
15 diversity, or economic status deserve our recognition; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1984, Congress passed House Joint Resolution 200, which designated
17 March 21, 1984, as National Single Parent Day, and President Reagan issued
18 Proclamation 5166, which proclaimed March 21, 1984, as National Single Parent Day; and

19 WHEREAS, since then, many states and organizations across the country recognize
20 March 21 each year as Single Parent Day; and

21 WHEREAS, childhood cancer is the number one cause of death by disease among children
22 under the age of 19; and

23 WHEREAS, two-thirds of children with cancer will develop a lifelong condition as a result
24 of treatment, and with 12 types and over 100 subtypes of pediatric cancer, every day 46
25 children are diagnosed and seven lose their lives; and

26 WHEREAS, there are 70 potential life years lost on average when a child dies of cancer
27 compared to 15 potential life years lost for adults; and

28 WHEREAS, pediatric cancer occurs regularly and randomly among children, sparing no
29 ethnic group, socioeconomic class, or geographic region; and

30 WHEREAS, those working in the field of pediatric oncology demonstrate great compassion,
31 understanding, and kindness for the children in their care and their dedication and
32 commitment to the betterment of the world is appreciated and acknowledged.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
34 GEORGIA that March 21 of each year shall be set aside and officially designated as Single
35 Parent Day in honor of the dedication and achievements of all single parents in the State of
36 Georgia.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that September 1 of each year shall be set aside and
38 officially designated as Childhood Cancer Awareness Day in Georgia.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
40 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
41 press.