

House Resolution 376

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57th, Cooper of the 43rd, Oliver of the 82nd, Kendrick of the 93rd, Dickerson of the 113th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Promoting awareness of cervical cancer prevention and the availability of human
2 papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination to the parents and children of the State of Georgia and
3 recognizing February 24, 2017, as Cervical Cancer Prevention Day at the state capitol; and
4 for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, cervical cancer is a devastating and potentially fatal disease that affects
6 hundreds of women each year in the State of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, cervical cancer is a disease that is preventable with proper HPV vaccination;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, HPV is a cause of cervical cancer and cancers of the mouth and pharynx, and
10 there is no cure or treatment for HPV infection; and

11 WHEREAS, HPV is spread through oral and genital contact and can be spread, although
12 rarely, from pregnant women to their babies during delivery; and

13 WHEREAS, approximately one in five Americans are infected with HPV, which can be
14 spread with no signs or symptoms, and many people with HPV are unaware that they are
15 infected; and

16 WHEREAS, approximately 14 million people become newly infected with HPV each year;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, educating parents and children about the HPV vaccines and cervical cancer
19 prevention is a necessary and worthwhile practice; and

20 WHEREAS, the CDC recommends two doses of the HPV vaccine given at least six months
21 apart at ages 11 and 12 years to provide safe, effective, and long-lasting protection against
22 HPV cancers; and

23 WHEREAS, all three HPV vaccines – Gardasil, Gardasil 9, and Cervarix – are safe,
24 effective, and recommended by the CDC; and

25 WHEREAS, the recommendation for females has been in place since 2007 and for males
26 since 2011. Studies have shown that a strong, clear recommendation from a healthcare
27 provider is associated with HPV vaccination; and

28 WHEREAS, Georgia HPV vaccination rates for females are lower than the national rate.
29 Nationally, 53.8 percent of females ages 13-17 have received one or more doses of HPV
30 vaccine and 33.4 percent have completed the entire course. In Georgia, 52.3 percent of
31 females ages 13-17 have received one or more doses of HPV vaccine and 29 percent have
32 completed the entire course; and

33 WHEREAS, Georgia HPV vaccination rates for males are lower than the national rate.
34 Nationally, 20.8 percent of males ages 13-17 have received one or more doses of the HPV
35 vaccine and 19.5 percent have completed the entire course. In Georgia, 19.8 percent have
36 received one or more doses of HPV vaccine and 8.7 percent have completed the entire
37 course.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
39 the members of this body promote awareness of cervical cancer prevention and the
40 availability of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination to the parents and children of the
41 State of Georgia and recognize February 24, 2017, as Cervical Cancer Prevention Day at the
42 state capitol.

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