

## House Resolution 972

By: Representatives Cooper of the 43<sup>rd</sup>, Dempsey of the 13<sup>th</sup>, Hutchinson of the 107<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>, and Houston of the 170<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of March 14-20, 2022, as Brain Awareness Week at the state capitol;  
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, since it first began in 1996, Brain Awareness Week has evolved into a global  
4 education initiative to help raise awareness around research and advancements into  
5 treatments, preventions and even cures for brain disorders, including stroke; and

6 WHEREAS, a stroke is the interruption of blood supply to the brain; and

7 WHEREAS, Georgia is located within America's "Stroke Belt" and had the eighth highest  
8 stroke death rate in the nation in 2019; and

9 WHEREAS, Georgians had more than 22,000 stroke hospitalizations in 2019, totaling over  
10 \$1.6 billion in hospitalization charges; and

11 WHEREAS, the most severe type of stroke is known as emergent large vessel occlusion  
12 (ELVO), when a clot prevents the flow of blood and oxygen to the brain and kills up to two  
13 million brain cells per minute until it is removed; and

14 WHEREAS, revolutionary advancements in medical innovation have made it possible to  
15 save more lives and prevent long-term disability among patients afflicted with stroke such  
16 as ELVO; and

17 WHEREAS, Level 1 stroke centers located throughout Georgia are staffed with highly  
18 trained neurointerventional care teams who perform a minimally invasive procedure known  
19 as mechanical thrombectomy, through which the clot responsible for causing a stroke is  
20 quickly located and removed, restoring blood flow to the brain; and

21 WHEREAS, there remains a gap between advanced treatment for stroke patients and existing  
22 protocols which inadvertently prevent timely access to lifesaving care; and

23 WHEREAS, adopting a triage and transport system for critical stroke patients based on the  
24 trauma model, in which critically injured patients are immediately transported to Level 1  
25 trauma centers, will ensure they are transported directly to Level 1 stroke centers, which are  
26 best equipped to provide lifesaving care; and

27 WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the citizens of this state recognize Brain Awareness  
28 Week and acknowledge the commendable work of organizations such as the Society of  
29 NeuroInterventional Surgery that are dedicated to improving systems of care for stroke  
30 patients to help save lives and prevent disability.

31 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
32 the members of this body recognize the week of March 14-20, 2022, as Brain Awareness  
33 Week at the state capitol.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
36 Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery.