

House Resolution 831

By: Representative Willard of the 51<sup>st</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending Amy Coleman for bravery; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome is a group of disorders that affect the connective  
3 tissues that support the skin, bones, blood vessels, and other organs; and
- 4 WHEREAS, there are six recognized types of Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, most of which cause  
5 an unusually large range of joint movement in those affected; and
- 6 WHEREAS, many people with Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome have soft, velvety skin that is  
7 highly elastic and fragile, causing them to bruise easily and experience wounds that split  
8 open with little bleeding and leave scars that widen over time to create characteristic shallow  
9 "cigarette paper" scars; and
- 10 WHEREAS, some forms of Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome can involve serious and potentially  
11 life-threatening complications, such as the unpredictable rupture of blood vessels, which can  
12 cause internal bleeding, stroke, and shock; and
- 13 WHEREAS, approximately one in 5,000 individuals worldwide are affected by this  
14 devastating disorder; and
- 15 WHEREAS, the arthrochalasia, classic, hypermobility, and vascular forms of the disorder  
16 usually have an autosomal dominant pattern of inheritance, which means that one copy of  
17 the altered gene in each cell is sufficient to cause the disorder, and in some cases, an affected  
18 person inherits the mutation from one affected parent while other cases result from new gene  
19 mutations; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Amy Coleman of Tarrytown, Georgia, has been diagnosed with Ehlers-Danlos  
21 Syndrome, and this brave citizen now advocates for and networks with other patients in the  
22 state; and

23 WHEREAS, Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome is a devastating disorder that causes great pain and  
24 suffering to those it affects, and it is important that awareness of Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome  
25 be raised across the State of Georgia.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
27 the members of this body commend Amy Coleman for her bravery in the face of  
28 Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome and extend their most sincere best wishes to all who suffer with this  
29 disorder.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
31 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Amy  
32 Coleman.