87R18366 BK-D

By:  Howard H.R. No. 764

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The observance of National Healthcare Decisions Day, which is held annually on April 16, provides an opportunity to educate Texans about the importance of end-of-life planning; and

WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day, a nationwide campaign of The Conversation Project, encourages all Americans to express their wishes with regard to end-of-life health care and urges health care providers to respect these wishes, whatever they may be; and

WHEREAS, Surveys show that the vast majority of Americans believe discussing end-of-life care with their loved ones is important, but only a minority have actually done so; starting a conversation is a vital first step in the end-of-life planning process, and it can facilitate legal actions, including the designation of power of attorney and the completion of a living will, which can ensure that an individual's desires are honored when the time comes; and

WHEREAS, On National Healthcare Decisions Day 2021, the GIFT Project is hosting a Drive-By Directives event in Austin, where nurses and social workers will be available to answer questions and assist visitors with completing advance directive forms; the GIFT Project is an initiative of Hospice Austin with the mission of providing free education about advance care planning to the public; and

WHEREAS, Thinking about end-of-life care can be difficult, but it is a necessary part of preparing for the future, and National Healthcare Decisions Day is an appropriate time to encourage all Texans to give thoughtful consideration to this important matter; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby recognize April 16, 2021, as National Healthcare Decisions Day and extend sincere best wishes to the GIFT Project and other organizations that are working to further the goals of the event.