

By: Howard

H.R. No. 764

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

24 WHEREAS, Thinking about end-of-life care can be difficult,

1 but it is a necessary part of preparing for the future, and National
2 Healthcare Decisions Day is an appropriate time to encourage all
3 Texans to give thoughtful consideration to this important matter;
4 now, therefore, be it

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