House Resolution 4EX

By: Representatives Burns of the 159th, Kelley of the 16th, and Hatchett of the 150th

A RESOLUTION

Concurring with Governor Brian P. Kemp's Executive Order No. 03.14.20.01 declaring a public health state of emergency; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, in late 2019, a new and significant outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus, known as COVID-19, was first identified in Wuhan, China; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is an infectious virus that can spread from person to person, causing respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared the outbreak of COVID-19 a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States, and has advised that the person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has noted that COVID-19 is now "community spread," meaning people have contracted the virus in areas of Georgia as a result of direct or indirect contact with infected persons, including some who are not sure how or where they became infected; and

WHEREAS, as of March 14, 2020, laboratory testing had confirmed more than 60 cases of COVID-19 in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, under the authority granted in Code Section 38-3-51 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, Governor Brian P. Kemp declared a public health emergency and issued Executive Order No. 03.14.20.01 as a necessary and appropriate action

to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Georgia's residents and visitors to ensure COVID-19 remains controlled throughout this State; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Code Section 38-3-51 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, action by the General Assembly is necessary to concur with or terminate the executive order as a condition precedent to the public health state of emergency going into effect.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the members of this body concur with Executive Order No. 03.14.20.01 issued by Governor Brian P. Kemp declaring a public health state of emergency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to Code Section 38-3-51 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the General Assembly by concurrent resolution may terminate a state of emergency at any time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate are authorized and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Governor Brian P. Kemp and members of the public and the press.