

**2009 SESSION**

**ENROLLED**

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 771**

*Designating April 4, in 2009 and in each succeeding year, as Patient Advocate Day in Virginia.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 30, 2009

Agreed to by the Senate, February 24, 2009

WHEREAS, access to healthcare is a basic human need and a shared societal responsibility; and  
WHEREAS, one patient who cannot access medical treatment or survive the financial hardship of illness is one patient too many; and

WHEREAS, the experience of a serious diagnosis must open the patient's door to relevant clinical information, empowerment within the medical care system, timely and sustained medical care and intervention, an ability to efficiently and effectively reach well-informed, independent decisions, and the benefit of appropriate support that removes barriers to this care and empowerment; and

WHEREAS, the challenging complexity of ensuring healthcare to those in need must not deter or distract us from the urgency of finding and creating solutions to this persistent problem, which requires immediate relief; and

WHEREAS, only the continuous, comprehensive, cooperative, and collaborative action of Virginia government, private industry, health care providers, and citizens can and must surmount this challenge; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate April 4, in 2009 and in each succeeding year, as Patient Advocate Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.

**ENROLLED**

**HJ771ER**