

Senate Resolution 788

By: Senators Gillis of the 20th, Hooks of the 14th, Dean of the 31st, Starr of the 44th, Bowen of the 13th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and congratulating the Mercer University School of Medicine on its 20th
2 anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Mercer University School of Medicine, now with campuses in Macon and
4 Savannah, came into being two decades ago with the mission of educating young men and
5 women of Georgia to meet the state's need for physicians, especially primary care physicians,
6 in rural and other medically underserved areas of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, the Mercer University School of Medicine, born out of the will of the people
8 of Georgia expressed through the state and university leaders, represents a unique partnership
9 between government and a private university which today stands as a monument to the
10 support, belief, and untiring labors of countless state and community leaders, supportive
11 citizens, and past and present students, faculty, and staff; and

12 WHEREAS, in a historic landmark appropriation in 1981, the Governor and the General
13 Assembly made available funds for the Mercer University School of Medicine and further
14 expressed through a resolution of the General Assembly continuing support for the school
15 in the future, an action that was crucial for the Mercer University School of Medicine to
16 move forward toward becoming a reality; and

17 WHEREAS, Mercer University School of Medicine's commitment to the partnership is
18 evidenced by the school receiving annual awards including the first ever Gold Achievement
19 Award from the American Academy of Family Practice for leading the nation in the
20 percentage of graduates entering family practice and by the school being a leader among
21 medical schools in the United States producing graduates choosing the primary care
22 specialties of family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology,
23 and by the number of Mercer graduates who are today treating patients in communities all
24 across our great state; and

1 WHEREAS, Mercer University School of Medicine has further partnered with and has been
2 greatly assisted by two major teaching hospitals, the Medical Center of Central Georgia in
3 Macon and Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah, other hospitals in
4 Rome, Albany, Columbus, Milledgeville, Dublin, and Atlanta, and community physicians,
5 health departments, and area health education centers throughout the state.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
7 recognize the Mercer University School of Medicine on its 20th anniversary, commend the
8 school on its 20 years of service to the citizens of Georgia, and congratulate the school on
9 its outstanding achievements.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body express appreciation and
11 continuing support for the work of the Mercer University School of Medicine and extend
12 their best wishes for many years of continued success.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
14 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the President of Mercer University.