

Senate Resolution 79

By: Senator Pearson of the 51st

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Piedmont Mountainside Hospital on its nomination as "Hospital of the Year"
2 by the Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Piedmont Mountainside Hospital is a 35 bed community hospital located in
4 Jasper, Georgia that serves patients in Pickens and several other counties in the foothills of
5 the Appalachian Mountains; and

6 WHEREAS, in October 2006, the Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals named the
7 facility "Hospital of the Year" and recognized its president and chief executive officer, Ed
8 Lovern, as "CEO of the Year"; and

9 WHEREAS, these honors were granted in recognition of the hospital's recent change in
10 leadership that was responsible for massively transformative improvements in all aspects of
11 the facility; and

12 WHEREAS, the hospital dramatically improved its technology and range of services,
13 investing \$6.5 million to include state of the art surgical equipment, imaging technology, and
14 information systems and open a 5,800 square foot Infusion Center and Endoscopy Lab; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2006, the facility delivered an institutional record of 274 babies, increased
16 its number of surgeries from 1,450 to more than 1,900, and expanded its staff to the number
17 of 339, including more than 95 physicians; and

18 WHEREAS, the hospital complemented these physical changes with a change in attitude,
19 shifting from a purely for profit approach to a community focused approach, providing more
20 than \$4 million in charity care in 2006 as well as supporting 18 community organizations;
21 and

1 WHEREAS, the hospital established a partnership with Pickens County Public Schools that
2 provides health care supplies for students and hosts educational opportunities at hospital
3 facilities; and

4 WHEREAS, the hospital was an instrumental sponsor for the 2006 "Stop Meth Now" summit
5 that attracted more than 500 area residents to address ways to stop the growing
6 methamphetamine crisis; and

7 WHEREAS, the facility projects more improvements in the future, including a \$9.7 million
8 expansion that will add more than 3,000 square feet to its emergency room; and

9 WHEREAS, this hospital's commitment to a higher quality of health care and its
10 demonstrated interest in the fair and charitable administration of medicine merits the utmost
11 praise.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
13 commend Piedmont Mountainside Hospital president and chief executive officer Ed Lovern
14 and each member of the hospital staff for their hard work and outstanding contributions to
15 the welfare of this state.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
17 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Piedmont Mountainside Hospital.