08 LC 95 0187

Senate Resolution 790

By: Senators Goggans of the 7th, Thomas of the 54th, Smith of the 52nd, Staton of the 18th, Douglas of the 17th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending the Georgia Rural Health Association and recognizing February 12, 2008, as
- 2 "Rural Health Day"; and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Rural Health Association (GRHA) is a nonprofit advocate for rural
- 4 health care consumers and the dedicated health professionals who serve rural Georgia and
- 5 encourages the development of an improved health care system throughout the state; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Georgia has 110 rural counties with over 1.6 million residents, but only one-half
- 7 as many physicians as urban counties, and the availability and quality of health care facilities
- 8 and professional services continues to decline; and
- 9 WHEREAS, rural counties have higher rates of cancer and cardiovascular mortality, infant
- 10 mortality, diabetes, children at risk for obesity, and the health care demand posed by the
- growing uninsured population and elderly population far exceeds the local resources; and
- 12 WHEREAS, the Georgia Rural Development Council recognizes that the limited availability
- and quality of rural health care facilities and services further aggravate the area's distressed
- 14 economy and deter industry recruitment; and
- 15 WHEREAS, state and federal officials need to focus on the plight of rural communities and
- 16 the need for better access to health care, workforce development and training, and access to
- 17 funding for aging health care facilities.
- 18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
- 19 commend the efforts of the Georgia Rural Health Association and recognize February 12,
- 20 2008, as "Rural Health Day."
- 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
- 22 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Rural Health Association.