

Senate Resolution 748

By: Senators Shafer of the 48th, Staton of the 18th, Williams of the 19th, Moody of the 56th, Tolleson of the 20th and others

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Grady Health System to adopt changes to its employee health benefits plan to
 2 require or encourage its employees to utilize the Grady Health System for primary health
 3 care; urging Fulton County and DeKalb County to consider changes to their employee health
 4 benefits plans to encourage their employees to utilize the Grady Health System for primary
 5 health care; urging the Grady Health System to end its closed staff model and open
 6 credentialing to community doctors to encourage other insured patients to utilize the services
 7 of the Grady Health System for primary health care; and for other purposes.

8 WHEREAS, the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority operates Grady Memorial Hospital and
 9 several affiliated clinics which are known together as the Grady Health System; and

10 WHEREAS, the Grady Health System is suffering substantial financial losses; and

11 WHEREAS, the financial losses experienced by the Grady Health System are in part
 12 attributable to a patient mix that is largely devoid of insured or paying patients; and

13 WHEREAS, the Grady Health System pays approximately \$18 million annually in health
 14 insurance premiums to provide health care benefits for its over 5,000 employees; and

15 WHEREAS, many employees of the Grady Health System rely on physicians not affiliated
 16 with the Grady Health System for primary health care; and

17 WHEREAS, other large hospitals structure their employee health benefits programs to
 18 require or encourage their employees to utilize the services of the hospital and its physicians
 19 for primary health care.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
 21 urge the Grady Health System to adopt changes to its employee health benefits plan to
 22 require or encourage its employees to utilize the Grady Health System for primary health

1 care; that Fulton County and DeKalb County to consider changes to their employee health
2 benefits plans to encourage their employees to utilize the Grady Health System for primary
3 health care; and that the Grady Health System end its closed staff model and open
4 credentialing to community doctors to encourage other insured patients to utilize the services
5 of the Grady Health System for primary health care.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
7 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority
8 and the governing authorities of Fulton and DeKalb counties.