

House Resolution 645

By: Representatives Amerson of the 9th, Williams of the 4th, Collins of the 27th, Hamilton of the 23rd, and Hembree of the 67th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Georgia Appalachian Center for Higher Education at North Georgia College
2 and State University in Dahlonega as Georgia's official Appalachian Center for Higher
3 Education; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, founded in 1873, North Georgia College and State University is the second
5 oldest public institution of higher education in this state and has the distinction of being the
6 first coeducational college in this state; and

7 WHEREAS, as the only four-year public institution in northeast Georgia, North Georgia
8 College and State University offers a quality college experience in a beautiful mountain
9 setting about an hour north of Atlanta; and

10 WHEREAS, North Georgia College and State University began to consider creating an
11 Appalachian Center for Higher Education out of an awareness that many youth in the
12 Appalachian area did not consider postsecondary education an option for their futures; and

13 WHEREAS, a grant proposal for the Georgia Appalachian Center for Higher Education for
14 the State of Georgia was submitted to the Appalachian Regional Commission, which was
15 subsequently rewarded to establish the center as a vehicle for raising awareness among
16 teachers, administrators, students, parents, and the greater Appalachian community of the
17 necessity for continuing education beyond high school; and

18 WHEREAS, the mission of the Georgia Appalachian Center for Higher Education at North
19 Georgia College and State University is to be the leader in providing funding, training,
20 programs, technical assistance, and resources to eligible Appalachian Georgia public high
21 schools to encourage and assist at-risk students to continue their education beyond high
22 school; and

23 WHEREAS, the center will increase the graduation and college-going rate in the
24 Appalachian region, and through awareness, education, and collaboration, the center will be
25 a responsive and engaged partner in the community, providing leadership and resources to
26 increase the graduation and college-going rate in Appalachian communities; and

27 WHEREAS, the center's mission and vision meets identified Appalachian Regional
28 Commission and State of Georgia goals, objectives, and strategies, including the creation of
29 regional partnerships and networks; and

30 WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly and Appalachian Regional Commission deem
31 enrolling and completing postsecondary education in the Appalachian communities to be of
32 the utmost importance.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body recognize the Georgia Appalachian Center for Higher Education
35 at North Georgia College and State University as the foremost institution of its kind in this
36 state and designate it as Georgia's official Appalachian Center for Higher Education.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to North Georgia College and
39 State University, the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the Board of Regents of the
40 University System of Georgia.