

## House Resolution 1289

By: Representatives Powell of the 29<sup>th</sup>, Ralston of the 7<sup>th</sup>, and Shaw of the 176<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Georgia's rural hospitals and HomeTown Health and inviting  
2 representatives of HomeTown Health to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and  
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, quality and accessible health care is a vital need for citizens all over Georgia;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Georgia's rural hospital network was developed many years ago to serve rural  
7 communities with acute primary health care; and

8 WHEREAS, Georgia's rural hospitals serve as a vital link to life for Georgians of all ages,  
9 providing necessary health care during tragedies, natural catastrophes, and accidents; and

10 WHEREAS, patients of Georgia's rural hospitals are predominantly patients that rely upon  
11 Medicare and medicaid or are uninsured and pay for their own medical bills without provider  
12 assistance; and

13 WHEREAS, even though Georgia's rural hospitals are usually in the top four employers of  
14 a community and are major economic engines for the areas they serve, these important  
15 institutions struggle daily to overcome physician and nursing shortages in order to provide  
16 efficient, quality health care to their communities; and

17 WHEREAS, Georgia's rural hospitals are instrumental to the overall health care system of  
18 Georgia, relieving congestion and crowding at major regional hospitals by providing  
19 necessary tertiary and primary health care services; and

20 WHEREAS, in order to share best practices and collaborate in funding efforts, Georgia's  
21 rural hospitals united to form a Georgia rural hospital business association named  
22 HomeTown Health; and

23 WHEREAS, HomeTown Health and its members are dedicated to advocating on behalf of  
24 rural hospitals in Georgia, and their efforts to obtain additional sources of funding for rural  
25 hospitals and ensure effective health care for Georgians is worthy of recognition.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
27 the members of this body commend the efforts of HomeTown Health and all rural hospitals  
28 in Georgia in providing first-class health care to residents of rural Georgia and invite  
29 representatives of HomeTown Health and Georgia's rural hospitals to be recognized by the  
30 Georgia House of Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the Speaker of the  
31 House of Representatives.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
33 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to HomeTown Health.