

## House Resolution 441

By: Representatives Cooper of the 41<sup>st</sup>, Peake of the 137<sup>th</sup>, Collins of the 27<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>, Rynders of the 152<sup>nd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Georgia Free Clinic Network and its member clinics and  
2 recognizing March 16, 2011, as "Georgia Free Clinic Network Day"; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Free Clinic Network connects over 94 nonprofit medical and dental  
4 clinics across Georgia serving the over 1.9 million uninsured Georgians; and

5 WHEREAS, charitable clinics are the unseen fabric of the health care safety net in  
6 communities, especially in rural areas, serving those with chronic and life-threatening  
7 illnesses, such as cancer, hypertension, and diabetes; and

8 WHEREAS, charitable clinics provide \$200 million of care while only reaching 10 percent  
9 of the uninsured population, according to the state auditor; and

10 WHEREAS, many uninsured individuals are limited to accessing health care through local  
11 hospital emergency rooms; charitable clinics provide a tremendous saving to taxpayers and  
12 hospitals and also provide a primary care base where patients can return for routine care; and

13 WHEREAS, Georgia's charitable clinics delivered health care services to approximately  
14 220,000 low-income, uninsured Georgians in 2010; and

15 WHEREAS, charitable clinics are experiencing increasing demands of 25 percent over 2010,  
16 and despite the growth of patients served, clinics are forced to turn away thousands of  
17 Georgians due to lack of capacity; and

18 WHEREAS, the majority of charitable clinics do not accept government funds and are  
19 funded by individuals, churches, civic groups, and foundations; and

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
21 the members of this body heartily commend the Georgia Free Clinic Network and its member

22 clinics for their unselfish, dedicated, and loving service to this state and its citizens and  
23 recognize March 16, 2011, as "Georgia Free Clinic Network Day."

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
25 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Free Clinic  
26 Network.