

House Resolution 79

By: Representatives Gordon of the 163rd, Stephens of the 165th, Bryant of the 162nd, Watson of the 166th, Hitchens of the 161st, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending St. Joseph's/Candler Health System of Savannah, Georgia,
2 and inviting President and CEO Mr. Paul P. Hinchey to be recognized by the House of
3 Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, St. Joseph's/Candler Health System is the recipient of the American Hospital
5 Association's prestigious Foster G. McGaw Prize for distinguished excellence in community
6 service, an honor presented to only one deserving hospital system in the nation each year;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, St. Joseph's Hospital's (1875) and Candler Hospital's (1804) historic healthcare
9 mission of caring for the citizens of Savannah and coastal Georgia spans nearly 350
10 cumulative years, and is "rooted in God's love" for the purpose of "treating illness and
11 promoting wellness for all people"; and

12 WHEREAS, St. Joseph's/Candler's consistent and committed efforts at community outreach
13 through innovative programs, private and public partnerships, and grassroots solutions have
14 provided a measurable, positive impact on the health and well-being of its citizenry; and

15 WHEREAS, St. Joseph's/Candler's St. Mary's Community Center has stimulated positive
16 change for the citizens of underserved Cuyler-Brownsville by serving as a neighborhood
17 resource hub, harvesting hope through education, job-training, community assistance
18 referrals, food supplies, housing enhancements, health screenings, nutritional counseling, and
19 other valuable safety net resources for the area's impoverished; and

20 WHEREAS, an additional innovation offered by St. Joseph's/Candler provides needed
21 healthcare access to those who are underinsured or uninsured through the volunteer based,
22 medical outreach initiative of The Good Samaritan Clinic; and

23 WHEREAS, The African-American Health Information & Resource Center, endorsed by a
24 former U.S. Surgeon General, was the first such facility of its kind in the nation to bridge the
25 digital divide by providing critical health related services to a specific at-risk population; and

26 WHEREAS, St. Joseph's/Candler's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program has
27 greatly benefited its recipients with free financial tax guidance while positively impacting
28 the local and state economy with more than \$11 million in tax refunds since its inception; and

29 WHEREAS, every measurable health improvement has taken a great deal of time,
30 persistence, and dedication by a workforce loyal to its health mission, possessing a keen
31 awareness of the populations they serve, and a culturally competent approach to skillfully
32 implement such services.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body recognize and commend St. Joseph's/Candler Health System, its
35 coworkers, extensive volunteers, and community partners for their recognition as a national
36 model for community outreach, service, and engagement and invite President and CEO Mr.
37 Paul P. Hinchey to be recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time to be
38 determined by the Speaker of the House.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Paul P. Hinchey.