

House Resolution 1146

By: Representative Rogers of the 10th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Medlink for moving to Habersham County; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Medlink Georgia is a 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation and has operated
3 federally supported primary care health centers in Northeast Georgia since the mid-1970s;
4 it is governed by a consumer driven board of directors, and the corporation uses a
5 combination of federal grant funds and program income from fees and charges; and

6 WHEREAS, Medlink evolved out of a research and development grant that the district health
7 office obtained; the health department was providing primary care for adjacent counties using
8 nurse practitioners under the guidance of a physician; and

9 WHEREAS, the site was in Crawford in Oglethorpe County and then expanded operations
10 to Bogart; and

11 WHEREAS, in 2000, Habersham County was identified in the strategic plan as an area with
12 high rates of chronic diseases, uninsured and under-insured residents and a designation as a
13 Medically Underserved Area by the U.S. Public Health Service; an increasing number of
14 Habersham residents now travel to the nearest Medlink Centers in Clayton, Homer, or
15 Gainesville to seek affordable care; and

16 WHEREAS, Medlink CEO Dr. Jackie Griffin recently announced that Medlink is pleased
17 to be an active part of the medical community in Habersham County beginning in January
18 2014; and

19 WHEREAS, Medlink Habersham is located at 396 Historic Highway, 441 North in
20 Demorest; offices are currently located in Banks, Barrow, Elbert, Franklin, Hall, Hart,
21 Madison, Oglethorpe, and Rabun counties; and

22 WHEREAS, Medlink Georgia is an indispensable part of the network community based
23 health centers making a difference in the lives of more than 358,000 Georgians each year;
24 nearly half of Georgia counties do not have adequate primary care physicians to meet basic
25 health care needs, and community health centers help fill that gap; and

26 WHEREAS, Medlink Habersham is elated to provide one-stop primary care for the citizens
27 of Habersham County, accepting Medicare, Medicaid, commercial insurance and for those
28 who are uninsured, fees based on the family income and size.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body commend Medlink for its continued effort to provide exemplary
31 health care service to all citizens and recognize its move to Habersham County.

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 Medlink.