

House Resolution 1245

By: Representatives Buckner of the 137th, Houston of the 170th, Caldwell of the 131st, Watson of the 172nd, Randall of the 142nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Georgia Rural Health Association, recognizing March 5, 2014, as Rural
2 Health Day at the state capitol, and inviting GRHA members to be recognized by the House
3 of Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Georgia Rural Health Association (GRHA) is a nonprofit advocate for rural
5 health care consumers and the dedicated health care professionals who serve rural Georgia
6 and encourages the development of an improved health care system throughout this state; and

7 WHEREAS, Georgia has 109 rural counties encompassing more than 2 million residents,
8 with a continuing decline in the availability and quality of health care providers, specialists,
9 nurses, and professional services; and

10 WHEREAS, these geographic areas have the highest cancer and cardiovascular mortality
11 rates and infant mortality, child abuse, and teen pregnancy rates, and the growing uninsured
12 population and elderly population with multiple diseases far exceed the area's health care
13 resources; and

14 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Community Health recognizes that the limited
15 availability and quality of rural health care facilities and services further aggravate the area's
16 distressed economy and deter industry recruitment; and

17 WHEREAS, state and federal officials need to focus on the plight of rural communities and
18 the need for better access to health care, workforce development and training, access to
19 capital for aging health care facilities, and medical malpractice tort reform.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body commend the efforts of the Georgia Rural Health Association,
22 recognize March 5, 2014, as Rural Health Day at the state capitol, and invite GRHA

23 members to be recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time to be
24 designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
26 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Rural Health
27 Association.