

Senate Resolution 878

By: Senator Harper of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Georgia Partnership for TeleHealth and recognizing February 7, 2014, as
2 TeleHealth Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia Partnership for TeleHealth is leading the nation in applied telemedicine
4 and health care IT integration solutions and was formed to promote improvements in health
5 care by integrating our health care systems in rural, urban, and underserved communities
6 throughout this state; and

7 WHEREAS, programs have expanded to include health care via telemedicine in health
8 regimens used in nursing homes, school clinics, jails, clinics, emergency rooms, trauma,
9 stroke, primary care, child advocacy, and continuing education; and

10 WHEREAS, Georgia's network includes more than 250 specialists who represent more than
11 40 specialties; this network saw more than 130,000 patients in 2013; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia Partnership for TeleHealth currently has 30 school based telehealth
13 centers in Georgia and, by the end of 2014, will have more than 50 in network; and

14 WHEREAS, providing access to health care via telemedicine has proven to cut costs on
15 travel and work time and provides quick access to high quality health care while lowering
16 readmission rates by more than 50 percent in some communities and changing lives of
17 children with asthma, diabetes, and autism through strategic partnerships with Children's
18 Healthcare of Atlanta; and

19 WHEREAS, school based clinics are changing lives, lowering the cost of care, and
20 decreasing the number of emergency room visits; and

21 WHEREAS, Georgia Partnership for TeleHealth has launched initiatives in more than 15
22 states and is now currently serving internationally in Guatemala, Haiti, and China; and

23 WHEREAS, Georgia Partnership for TeleHealth is making great strides in helping to better
24 secure fast and effective health care for the citizens of this state, and it is abundantly fitting
25 and proper that this organization be recognized.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
27 commend Georgia Partnership for TeleHealth on its commitment to the citizens of Georgia
28 and recognize February 7, 2014, as TeleHealth Day at the state capitol.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
30 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Georgia Partnership for TeleHealth.