

Senate Resolution 15

By: Senators Stone of the 23rd, Jackson of the 24th, Jones II of the 22nd, Ginn of the 47th, Millar of the 40th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 17, 2015, as Medical College of Georgia Day at the state capitol; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Medical College of Georgia was established in 1828 as the first medical
4 school in the State of Georgia, the 13th oldest in the United States, and the third oldest in the
5 Southeast; and

6 WHEREAS, the Medical College of Georgia is dedicated to innovative medical education,
7 cutting-edge research, and quality patient care and continues to expand its statewide footprint
8 to meet the growing need for physicians in rural and urban Georgia by having students living
9 and learning across the vast state; and

10 WHEREAS, the Medical College of Georgia has the 10th largest total enrollment of the
11 nation's 141 accredited medical schools, with 230 students per class; and

12 WHEREAS, a second four-year partnership campus in Athens with the University of
13 Georgia, a unique and powerful synergy between two of Georgia's top universities, begun
14 in 2010, now has 160 medical students, with the first group of 40 students graduating in May
15 of 2014; and

16 WHEREAS, the Medical College of Georgia clinical campus based in Savannah/Brunswick,
17 through vibrant partnerships with St. Joseph's/Candler Health System and with Brunswick's
18 Southeast Georgia Health System started in 2007, now has 37 medical students living and
19 learning in that area of the state; and

20 WHEREAS, the Medical College of Georgia started a campus based in Albany, in
21 partnership with Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in 2005, and now has 19 residential
22 students and over 200 transitional student rotations per year in Southwest Georgia; and

23 WHEREAS, the newest campus was launched in Rome, in July of 2013, and now has 17
24 medical students; and the Northwest Campus is supported by its health care community,
25 including the Harbin Clinic, Floyd Medical Center, and Redmond Regional Medical Center,
26 as well as University System of Georgia sister university, Georgia Highlands College; and

27 WHEREAS, the Medical College of Georgia offers clinical education training for medical
28 students with physicians in approximately 135 sites across the state, providing medical
29 students experience in the full spectrum of medicine; and

30 WHEREAS, the Medical College of Georgia also is working diligently to support expansion
31 of graduate medical education throughout the state; and

32 WHEREAS, Dr. J. Harold Harrison, an MCG graduate of the Class of 1948, donated \$10
33 million that contributed to the funding and building of the J. Harold Harrison, MD, Education
34 Commons, which opened in October of 2014; and

35 WHEREAS, the Medical College of Georgia continues to serve as an economic engine for
36 the state and region with \$96.8 million in extramural grants and contracts; and

37 WHEREAS, the research funding includes a recently awarded five-year, \$10.6 million grant
38 from the National Institutes of Health seeking to find solutions to chronic stress, obesity, and
39 inflammation conspiring to cause about 30 percent of blacks and 15 percent of whites to hold
40 onto too much sodium for too long, raising their blood pressure, and putting them at risk for
41 a host of maladies; and

42 WHEREAS, there are 10,052 Alumni of the Medical College of Georgia throughout the
43 United States, with 4,788 living in Georgia; and

44 WHEREAS, through the leadership of its faculty, residents, students, and staff, the Medical
45 College of Georgia, which is approaching its bicentennial, serves as a strong advocate for the
46 health of Georgians.

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
48 recognize February 17, 2015, as Medical College of Georgia Day at the state capitol and
49 commend the Medical College of Georgia at Georgia Regents University and its faculty,
50 students, staff, residents, alumni, and friends for their many years of dedicated service to the
51 health needs of Georgia citizens.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
53 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the representatives
54 of the Medical College of Georgia at Georgia Regents University.