

Senate Resolution 40

By: Senators Unterman of the 45th, Ligon, Jr. of the 3rd, Walker III of the 20th, Kirk of the 13th and Hufstetler of the 52nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 26, 2017, as Health Information Technology Day at the state capitol;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Atlanta is often referred to as the health information technology capital of the
4 United States; and

5 WHEREAS, health information technology provides the umbrella framework to describe the
6 comprehensive management of health information across computerized systems and its
7 secure exchange between consumers, providers, government and quality entities, and
8 insurers; and

9 WHEREAS, there are more than 225 health information technology companies in Georgia,
10 a number that continues to rise rapidly; and

11 WHEREAS, the health information technology industry in Georgia already leads the nation
12 with over 26,000 employees, their mission being to improve patient services and reduce
13 health care costs; and

14 WHEREAS, the following seven Georgia based health information technology companies
15 ranked among the 2015 Healthcare Informatics 100 List: McKesson, CIOX Health,
16 Greenway Health, MedAssets, Brightree, Sharecare, and Surgical Information Systems; and

17 WHEREAS, the 2016 Institute for Healthcare Information Provider Report reported that 80
18 percent of study respondents stated that their information technology budget will increase
19 over the next five years with the top priority areas for information technology spending being
20 electronic medical records, cyber security, and medical device integration; and

21 WHEREAS, Georgia's health information technology employment growth is among the
22 highest in the nation, with a growth rate of almost 20 percent in the past five years alone; and

23 WHEREAS, the Technology Association of Georgia Health's mission is to be a catalyst for
24 furthering Georgia as a leader in health care technology through opportunities in education,
25 networking, and collaboration by working with society members, community leaders, and
26 industry stakeholders to create an environment that will facilitate the realization of this
27 message; and

28 WHEREAS, the Georgia Chapter of the Healthcare Information Management and Systems
29 Society (GA-HIMSS) provides state-wide leadership for the advancement and management
30 of health care information and technology and encompasses over 1,600 health care
31 information technology professionals; and

32 WHEREAS, the Institute for Healthcare Information Technology (IHIT) partners with
33 industry, government, the Technical College System of Georgia, and the University System
34 of Georgia to raise awareness on this emerging work force and to adjust education options
35 available to Georgia students.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
37 commend the Technology Association of Georgia Health, Georgia Chapter of the Healthcare
38 Information Management and Systems Society, Institute for Healthcare Information
39 Technology, and the health information technology industry on their efforts to grow the
40 economy by supporting businesses and facilitating industry and education partnerships and
41 recognize January 26, 2017, as Health Information Technology Day at the state capitol.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
43 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
44 press.