

House Resolution 182

By: Representatives Raffensperger of the 50th, Petrea of the 166th, Rutledge of the 109th, Caldwell of the 20th, and Pirkle of the 155th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Governor to negotiate with federal authorities to receive a waiver creating per
2 capita block grant funding to be used for indigent health care and providing legislative
3 notification pursuant to Code Section 49-4-142.1 for the submission of a waiver request
4 pursuant to Section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, the Georgia House of Representatives and Georgia Senate are concerned with
6 the disastrous financial impact from unfunded federal mandates; and

7 WHEREAS, the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act ("EMTALA")
8 places an unfunded mandate on Georgia hospitals; and

9 WHEREAS, the federal Affordable Care Act has reduced the availability of health coverage
10 options for Georgians; and

11 WHEREAS, currently, Georgia's physicians absorb substantial uncompensated care and
12 Georgia's hospitals incur more than \$1 billion in uncompensated indigent care each year; and

13 WHEREAS, this unfunded mandate has raised the price of insurance for all Georgians with
14 private insurance; and

15 WHEREAS, this unfunded mandate has created the justification for top-down, regulatory
16 measures; and

17 WHEREAS, the new incoming federal administration has shown a willingness to consider
18 block grants and refundable tax credits to help all Americans find alternative options for
19 health care coverage and to support safety net providers.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the Governor is urged to negotiate with federal authorities

22 to receive a waiver creating per capita block grant funding to be used for indigent health care
23 and that legislative notification is hereby given pursuant to Code Section 49-4-142.1 of the
24 Official Code of Georgia Annotated that the Department of Community Health, the Board
25 of Community Health, and the Governor are authorized to submit any necessary requests to
26 the United States Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and
27 Medicaid Services for a waiver pursuant to Section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act.