

House Resolution 333

By: Representatives Jones of the 47th, Beskin of the 54th, Gardner of the 57th, Silcox of the 52nd, Willard of the 51st, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Grady Memorial Hospital and Grady Health System on the occasion of its
2 125th anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Grady Health System was the vision of Henry W. Grady, editor of the "Atlanta
4 Constitution," who worried about the lack of quality health care for Atlanta's poor; on June 1,
5 1892, his extraordinary dream came true when the doors to Grady Hospital were officially
6 opened with 110 beds and one operating room with an amphitheater for students and staff;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Grady Health System has grown considerably from its original three-story
9 facility and now stands as one of the largest public health systems in the United States and
10 the largest hospital in Georgia; and

11 WHEREAS, Grady Health System maintains its strong commitment to the health care needs
12 of the underserved while offering a full range of specialized medical services for all segments
13 of the community; Grady is recognized world wide for its leadership in trauma care as the
14 premier Level 1 Trauma Center in Atlanta and for stroke interventions and care that are
15 setting standards across the industry; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1915, Emory University School of Medicine began training doctors at Grady
17 and offering exemplary care to the growing number of patients at the hospital; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1978, a medical school was established at Morehouse College and began also
19 assuming responsibility for patient care, medical education, and clinical research at Grady;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Grady's partnership with Emory and Morehouse Schools of Medicine, along
22 with its Paramedic/EMT school, the radiology school, and its former nursing schools means

23 that many medical professionals working in Georgia, including 25 percent of the physicians
24 have received training at Grady; and

25 WHEREAS, at any given time, more than 400 clinical trials may be underway at Grady,
26 making it one of the nation's most robust medical research programs; and

27 WHEREAS, throughout its 125 year history, Grady has been the home to many medical
28 "firsts" including: in the 1920's, the first open-heart surgery in Georgia, and the world's first
29 and largest comprehensive cancer center; in the 1940's, one of only three cardiac
30 catheterization labs in the world, and one of the nation's first "eye banks" for corneal
31 transplant patients; in the 1970's, the Georgia Poison Center opened at Grady and still offers
32 24-hour access for the entire state; in the 1980's, the world's first 24-hour comprehensive
33 Sickle Cell Center was created at Grady; in the 1990's, Grady revolutionized HIV/AIDS care
34 by opening the Ponce Center Infectious Disease Program and began treating the disease as
35 a chronic condition; and Grady is also home to one of only two verified burn centers in the
36 entire state and Grady EMS operates 911 for the City of Atlanta and for six rural Georgia
37 counties as the largest hospital based EMS in the state; and

38 WHEREAS, in January, 2008, a coalition of state and community leaders agreed to create
39 the Grady Memorial Hospital Corporation, a nonprofit corporation charged with
40 administering the hospital, and members of a new board were announced; in response to the
41 board's fundraising campaign, more than \$350 million in philanthropic donations helped
42 "Save Grady"; and

43 WHEREAS, managing more than 630,000 patient visits each year, in 2016, Grady Health
44 System provided more than \$250 million in indigent and charity care; and

45 WHEREAS, Grady continually reaches out to the community, emphasizing wellness,
46 prevention, and early detection; in addition to the six neighborhood clinics in Fulton and
47 DeKalb counties offering specialty care in the communities, Grady offers free health related
48 screenings, seminars, community fairs, and educational conferences throughout the year.

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
50 the members of this body commend Grady Memorial Hospital and Grady Health System for
51 125 years of dedication to serving the underserved in Atlanta, Fulton County, and DeKalb
52 County while also being a resource for the entire state, training medical professionals,
53 conducting cutting-edge research, and shaping the future of medicine and health care.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
55 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Grady
56 Health System.