

House Resolution 1631

By: Representatives Howard of the 124th, Frazier of the 126th, Nelson of the 125th, Newton of the 123rd, and Williams of the 168th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring Dr. Joseph Hobbs, longtime chair of the Department of Family
2 Medicine, for his contributions to the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University and
3 to the State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Joseph Hobbs was one of the first black graduates of the Medical College
5 of Georgia (MCG), earning his medical degree in 1974 after completing a bachelor's degree
6 at Mercer University; and

7 WHEREAS, he completed his family medicine residency at MCG, including serving a year
8 as chief resident, before joining the faculty of his alma mater and the state's only public
9 medical school; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Hobbs served as the Department of Family Medicine's residency program
11 director, inpatient service director, student and education clerkship director, vice chair of
12 academic affairs, and associate dean for primary care before assuming the role of department
13 chair more than 20 years ago; and

14 WHEREAS, he also serves as MCG's senior associate dean for faculty diversity and primary
15 care; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Hobbs is also the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians Joseph W.
17 Tollison, MD, Distinguished University Chair in Family Medicine; and

18 WHEREAS, he has coordinated the educational and service activities of the Family Medicine
19 Faculty/Resident Practice, which was the State of Georgia's first academic health
20 center-based, National Committee for Quality Assurance-recognized, patient-centered
21 medical home (PCMH) that focuses on patient centeredness, quality, and practice-based
22 population health; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Hobbs has a history of using extramural and state funding to develop
24 innovative academic and community learning venues for undergraduate and graduate medical
25 education; and

26 WHEREAS, he helped establish a state-wide family medicine preceptorship program that
27 enables MCG medical students to learn alongside family physicians throughout Georgia; and

28 WHEREAS, Dr. Hobbs led the development of the Tri-County Health System Inc., a
29 35-year-old initiative that provides care to the medically underserved Georgia counties of
30 Warren, Glascock, Taliaferro, and Hancock; and

31 WHEREAS, he helped establish a Family Medicine Referral and Consult service to work
32 with physicians practicing in rural areas of Georgia and, 30 years ago, helped MCG students
33 start a weekly clinic for Augusta's homeless; and

34 WHEREAS, Dr. Hobbs served as president of the Association of Departments of Family
35 Medicine from 2016 to 2017; president of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine;
36 member of the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM); and board member for the
37 Pisacano Leadership Foundation, the philanthropic partner of the ABFM; and

38 WHEREAS, since 2014, he has been the voice of Georgia Public Broadcasting's Medical
39 Minute, which disseminates MCG research across the state every Saturday and Sunday on
40 17 GPB radio stations; and

41 WHEREAS, Dr. Hobbs has been a tireless advocate for his alma mater and has been
42 committed to every aspect of primary care, helping ensure the next generation of great family
43 medicine physicians.

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
45 the members of this body recognize and commend Dr. Joseph Hobbs for his lasting
46 contributions to medical education, research, and patient care and for his legacy as a great
47 physician, a lifelong learner, an exceptional collaborator, and a force for good at his medical
48 school and in our state and nation.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
50 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dr.
51 Joseph Hobbs.