

House Resolution 1407

By: Representatives Hagan of the 156th, Dempsey of the 13th, Jackson of the 128th, and O'Steen of the 169th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 18, 2026, as Community Health Centers Day and commending the
2 Georgia Primary Care Association; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Federally Qualified Health Centers located in 145 counties and more than 330
4 medically underserved communities provide high-quality primary and preventive health care
5 to nearly 750,000 people in the State of Georgia, including more than 193,000 Medicaid
6 recipients and over 192,000 uninsured, the working poor, and numerous underinsured,
7 elderly, homeless, and other vulnerable populations, without regard to income status, cultural
8 or ethnic heritage, or disease conditions; and

9 WHEREAS, Community Health Centers contribute more than \$1.6 billion per year to
10 Georgia's economy through indirect and induced economic activity, including over \$500
11 million in household income and 4,711 Georgia jobs, saving the Georgia Medicaid program
12 up to 33 percent in annual spending per Medicaid beneficiary; and

13 WHEREAS, Community Health Centers recruit and retain more than 2,000 health care
14 professionals where they are most needed and offer access to a wide range of cost-effective
15 medical and dental services, behavioral health services, prescription medicines, health

16 education, nutrition counseling, translation services, community outreach, transportation, and
17 other support programs; and

18 WHEREAS, Community Health Centers have a track record spanning over six decades of
19 controlling costs, documented in several studies that show rates of costly emergency room
20 visits, hospitalizations, and specialty care referrals are much lower among health center
21 patients; and

22 WHEREAS, Community Health Centers work in partnership with other health care
23 providers, local hospitals, health departments, social service agencies, and health-related
24 support organizations to maximize resources and ensure that services are coordinated to
25 improve the health status of the community; and

26 WHEREAS, Community Health Centers have been innovators in the establishment of
27 patient-centered medical homes, providing access to quality care and continuity of care for
28 the patients they serve; and

29 WHEREAS, Georgia's Community Health Centers and their state organization, the Georgia
30 Primary Care Association, have worked diligently to increase the number of Community
31 Health Center sites in Georgia and have taken a leadership role in establishing more Health
32 Centers in underserved communities to help resolve this state's health care access problems,
33 demonstrating commendable efforts in continuous quality improvement, reduction of health
34 disparities among the underserved, implementation of new health care initiatives such as the
35 integration of medical and behavioral health services, School-Based Health Centers, and
36 utilization of the latest technology to improve operations and delivery of services to more
37 Georgians; and

38 WHEREAS, Community Health Centers deserve commendation for their valuable
39 contributions in expanding access to health care, their outstanding record of service, and their
40 dedication to improving health care and the health status of Georgians.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
42 the members of this body recognize February 18, 2026, as Community Health Centers Day
43 and commend the Georgia Primary Care Association for its laudable service to patients in
44 Georgia.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
46 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
47 Georgia Primary Care Association.