

Senate Resolution 9EX

By: Senator Harrell of the 40th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Dr. Elma Mera Steves; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Dr. Elma Mera Steves was born in Contamana, Peru, and after earning her
3 medical degree in Lima, Peru, she came to the United States to pursue her medical residency,
4 beginning a distinguished career in pediatric medicine; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Dr. Elma Mera Steves completed her residency training at Grady Memorial
6 Hospital and chose to make Georgia her home, dedicating her life to the care of children and
7 families throughout the state; and
- 8 WHEREAS, in January 1965, she established a solo pediatric practice on Chamblee Tucker
9 Road in Chamblee and faithfully served generations of patients for more than 53 years,
10 remaining in active practice until her retirement in May 2018 at the age of 91; and
- 11 WHEREAS, she helped expand pediatric healthcare services in Georgia as a founding
12 member of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and through her efforts to assist Piedmont
13 Hospital in opening its pediatric department; and

14 WHEREAS, committed to advancing the medical profession, she served as president of the
15 Georgia Branch of the American Medical Women's Association during the late 1970s and
16 provided leadership and mentorship to fellow physicians throughout her career; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1973, she joined with 14 fellow physicians to found the Peruvian American
18 Medical Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing quality healthcare to
19 underserved men, women, and children in Peru with compassion, integrity, charity, and
20 respect, and she participated in numerous medical missions benefiting those in need; and

21 WHEREAS, in recognition of her exceptional service and accomplishments, she received the
22 DeKalb County Medical Society's Julius McCurdy Citizenship Award in 2012 and the
23 Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Leila Denmark Lifetime
24 Achievement Award in 2015, the chapter's highest honor recognizing a lifetime of
25 contributions to pediatrics; and

26 WHEREAS, through her professional excellence, humanitarian service, civic leadership, and
27 devotion to improving the lives of others, Dr. Elma Mera Steves has earned the admiration
28 and gratitude of her patients, colleagues, and community.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
30 recognize and commend Dr. Elma Mera Steves for her decades of exemplary service on
31 behalf of the citizens of this state and extend best wishes for future health and happiness.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dr. Elma Mera
34 Steves.