

## House Resolution 1376

By: Representatives Hatchett of the 150<sup>th</sup>, England of the 116<sup>th</sup>, Powell of the 171<sup>st</sup>, Watson of the 172<sup>nd</sup>, Meadows of the 5<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the House Rural Development Council to solicit input from the hospitals in this state  
2 on the financial conditions of such hospitals; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, hospitals, regardless of tax status, play a critical role in the economic  
4 development of a community and provide significant amounts of indigent care; and

5 WHEREAS, the profitability of hospitals varies widely, with some being very profitable and  
6 others in jeopardy of closing; and

7 WHEREAS, nonprofit hospitals are not subject to taxation but are required to report the  
8 community benefit they have provided in their annual IRS Form 990; and

9 WHEREAS, there is a wide discrepancy among hospitals in this state with respect to how  
10 much indigent care and charity care each provides; and

11 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to consider all options to support rural hospitals that are  
12 in jeopardy of closing, and to that end it would be prudent to review the types of activities  
13 and amounts of community benefit provided by health care providers and to assess the value  
14 of tax exemptions provided to hospitals that are prudent, especially in light of the provisions  
15 of indigent and charity care; and

16 WHEREAS, it would further be beneficial to have a report from hospitals in this state  
17 regarding the profitability of each hospital, the community benefits provided by each hospital  
18 to its community, cash reserves of each hospital, and viability projections for hospitals in  
19 fiscal crisis and to receive recommendations from the hospital industry regarding legislative  
20 or regulatory changes that could ensure the continued viability of our health care industry,  
21 including coordination with insurance companies and with physicians, including all  
22 subspecialties, and other health care providers caring for our populace.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
24 the members of this body urge the House Rural Development Council to solicit input from  
25 the hospitals in this state on the financial conditions of such hospitals.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
27 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
28 House Rural Development Council, the Georgia Hospital Association, and the Georgia  
29 Alliance of Community Hospitals.