

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO**
2 **PROVIDE FUNDING FOR A FREESTANDING EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT IN THE**
3 **SOUTH FULTON AREA TO BE CONSTRUCTED AND OPERATED BY THE GRADY**
4 **HEALTHCARE CORPORATION THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS VIA THE**
5 **FULTON-DEKALB HOSPITAL AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**
6

7 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners has authority, pursuant to
8 the Constitution of the State of Georgia, Article 9, Sec. 2 ¶ 1(a), to adopt and amend
9 reasonable ordinances, resolutions, or regulations relating to its affairs for which no
10 provision has been made by general law and which is not inconsistent with the Georgia
11 Constitution or any local law applicable thereto; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton-Dekalb Hospital Authority (“FDHA”) was created in 1941 to
13 address the medical needs of residents and the acquisition and construction of hospital
14 facilities to serve those residents; and

15 **WHEREAS**, FDHA achieves a great deal of its mission through the ownership and
16 funding of properties and assets that support the Grady Memorial Hospital Corporation
17 (“Grady”) and its suite of health care programs; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the residents of South Fulton currently experience a gap in
19 emergency department services, with the nearest emergency department being located
20 twenty to forty minutes from where they live; and

21 **WHEREAS**, it is often critical to receive emergency care right away, and the
22 locating of an emergency department in South Fulton could significantly reduce this travel
23 time and provide emergency services to more than 360,000 residents who would then be
24 within only about ten miles of the facility; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Grady has committed to additional investments of two new outpatient
2 service facilities in the South Fulton area and desires to enhance the services in the area
3 further to handle an estimated 24,000 emergency department visits per year; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Grady has estimated that its capital costs for a freestanding South
5 Fulton emergency department will total approximately \$38 million; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County desires to contribute half of the capital cost to allow
7 Grady to move forward with establishing the freestanding South Fulton emergency
8 department; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County is empowered and desires to seek the issuance of
10 bonds through the FDHA to support these capital needs and to pay the annual debt
11 service on the bonds; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County may accomplish this support in a revenue neutral
13 manner through the reprogramming of a portion of contingency funds currently reserved
14 in the budget for behavioral health because \$9.4 million in state funding was appropriated
15 for behavioral health crisis center operating costs; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners finds it to be in the best interest and
17 welfare of its citizens to fund and support Grady's establishment of the freestanding South
18 Fulton emergency department.

19 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners
20 supports the establishment and funding of the freestanding South Fulton emergency
21 department.

22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners directs the Office
23 of the Fulton County Manager and the Finance Department to undertake all administrative

1 processes required to conduct a \$19 million bond issuance with a fifteen (15) year
2 payback period through the FDHA.

3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the contingency funds budgeted for annual
4 behavioral health operations shall be reduced from \$2.5 million to \$800,000.00, and that
5 the \$1.7 million deduction from that original amount created by this action shall be set
6 aside for the purpose of satisfying the annual debt service on the bond issuance.

7 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall become effective upon its
8 adoption, and that all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution
9 are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

10 **SO PASSED AND ADOPTED**, this 10th day of July, 2024.

11
12 **FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF**
13 **COMMISSIONERS**

14 **Sponsored by:**

15
16 _____
17 Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)
18
19
20

21
22 **ATTEST:**
23
24

25 _____
26 Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission
27
28
29

30
31 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**
32
33

34 _____
35 Y. Soo Jo, County Attorney