

By Senator Forman

32-385-99

1 Senate Memorial No. \_\_\_\_

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United  
3 States, urging Congress to review the HMO  
4 Medicare/Medicare+Choice delivery system with  
5 the goal of devising methods to stabilize the  
6 market, avoid confusion of the elderly and  
7 other Medicare-eligible enrollees, provide  
8 adequate coverage at a reasonable cost, and  
9 avoid shifts in coverage which disrupt the  
10 market.

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12 WHEREAS, seven health maintenance organizations have  
13 recently announced significant reductions of HMO coverage for  
14 Medicare beneficiaries in 26 Florida counties, and

15 WHEREAS, this action is due to reductions in  
16 reimbursement levels, and

17 WHEREAS, effective January 1, 1999, an estimated 64,704  
18 Medicare beneficiaries will be canceled throughout those 26  
19 Florida counties, and

20 WHEREAS, in nine Florida counties, an estimated 17,117  
21 Medicare beneficiaries have no choice but to return to  
22 traditional coverage under Medicare, Parts A and B, and

23 WHEREAS, many of these individuals enrolled in HMO  
24 Medicare coverage because of the reduced financial burden and  
25 the availability of certain additional benefits, such as  
26 prescription drugs, and

27 WHEREAS, those Medicare beneficiaries who must return  
28 to traditional coverage under Medicare, Parts A and B, may not  
29 be eligible for certain Medicare supplement insurance policies  
30 that, if affordable, would help restore certain benefits and  
31 services previously available through a Medicare HMO, and

1           WHEREAS, the cancellation of coverage available from  
2 Medicare HMOs has forced thousands of Medicare beneficiaries  
3 in Florida to make significant health care choices without  
4 adequate preparation and consumer education, and

5           WHEREAS, current "guarantee issue" Medicare supplement  
6 insurance policies do not provide important benefits, such as  
7 coverage for prescription drugs, NOW, THEREFORE,

8  
9 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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11           That the Congress of the United States is urged to  
12 review the HMO Medicare/Medicare+Choice delivery system with  
13 the goal of devising methods to stabilize the market, avoid  
14 confusion of the elderly and other Medicare-eligible  
15 enrollees, provide adequate coverage at a reasonable cost, and  
16 avoid disruptive shifts in coverage.

17           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
18 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
19 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the  
20 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of  
21 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.