

HM 0541

2004

House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to support the Medicare Prescription Drug Savings Act of 2003.

WHEREAS, prescription drug prices have risen between 14 and 19 percent during the past 4 years, which is five times the rate of inflation, and

WHEREAS, the value of the prescription drug benefit authorized under the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 recently passed by Congress will diminish each year if such inflationary trend continues, and

WHEREAS, such federal act prohibits Medicare officials from negotiating directly with pharmaceutical companies for lower prices, and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense, the Veterans Health Administration, and the Indian Health Service have achieved great savings through negotiation with pharmaceutical companies, and

WHEREAS, negotiation and competition with respect to prescription drug prices is in the best interest of Floridians on Medicare, and

WHEREAS, the Medicare Prescription Drug Savings Act of 2003 amends the recently passed Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 to allow direct negotiation of prescription drug prices with pharmaceutical companies, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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31 That the Congress of the United States is urged to pass the
32 Medicare Prescription Drug Savings Act of 2003.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
34 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
35 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
36 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
37 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.