

By Senator Aronberg

27-00178-08

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Senate Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to increase federal funding for home health services for the elderly.

WHEREAS, federal financial assistance is provided for nursing home care under the Medicaid program for elderly patients, and

WHEREAS, studies document improved outcomes and better quality of care and life for elderly patients who are furnished health care in the patients' homes in contrast to nursing homes, and

WHEREAS, there are only a few programs under which federal financial assistance is provided for home health services for elderly patients, and

WHEREAS, the federal financial assistance that is available for home health services is insufficient to support 24-hour care for elderly patients, and

WHEREAS, a home health agency may hire home health aides but not require any structured education or training for such aides, and

WHEREAS, an individual may take the examination to be certified as a nurse assistant without any formal education and training, and

WHEREAS, there is little or no supervision of caregivers placed in the home of an elderly patient to care for the patient, and

WHEREAS, home health services benefit not only people who are parents and grandparents but also their children and

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30 grandchildren, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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34 That the Congress of the United States is urged to:

35 (1) Increase federal financial assistance for home health
36 services for elderly patients when it is determined that a
37 patient is in need of such services; and

38 (2) Establish federal guideline requirements for students
39 and schools that train certified nurse assistants and home health
40 aides.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
42 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
43 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
44 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the
45 Florida delegation to the United States Congress.