

HM 1201

2009

## 1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging  
3 Congress to create a nationwide Emergency Room Staffing  
4 Initiative.

5  
6 WHEREAS, a crisis exists whereby an insufficient number of  
7 physicians and medical specialists are available to provide on-  
8 call emergency room support, and

9 WHEREAS, in order to provide a more stable health care  
10 system in America, an incentive must be created to encourage  
11 physicians and medical specialists to more actively participate  
12 in these on-call emergency room responsibilities as part of  
13 their hospital staffing duties, and

14 WHEREAS, an increased number of indigent care cases and  
15 patients without health insurance seeking medical attention has  
16 helped to discourage many practitioners and specialists from  
17 desiring to serve in on-call services in emergency rooms, and

18 WHEREAS, when combined with already dramatically reduced  
19 reimbursement rates, the staffing crisis is exacerbated, NOW,  
20 THEREFORE,

21  
22 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

23  
24 That the Congress of the United States is urged to create a  
25 nationwide initiative in order to remedy this staffing crisis by  
26 amending the nation's tax code to allow for all uncompensated  
27 emergency room work to be eligible as a charitable deduction  
28 against earned income for the practicing physician or medical

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29 | specialist up to a maximum of \$100,000. Charges eligible for  
30 | this deduction should be based on a rate equivalent to 200  
31 | percent of the Medicare reimbursement rate at the time the  
32 | service is rendered. In the absence of an applicable Medicare  
33 | billing code, hospitals may charge a fee not to exceed 100  
34 | percent of the average customary and reasonable charges allowed  
35 | under private health insurance for any services rendered.

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