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2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
3 urging Congress to support federally funded and state-
4 funded home and community-based services for
5 individuals with disabilities of any age, especially
6 elders.

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8 WHEREAS, federal and state financial assistance is provided
9 for nursing home care under the Medicare and Medicaid programs
10 for elders and individuals with disabilities, and

11 WHEREAS, home and community-based services are a valuable
12 cost-effective alternative to institutional care which benefit
13 both the individual receiving such services and the federal and
14 state programs that fund such services, and

15 WHEREAS, studies document that elders and individuals with
16 disabilities who receive health care in the their homes or other
17 community settings in contrast to those who receive care in a
18 nursing home experience improved outcomes, quality of care, and
19 quality of life, and

20 WHEREAS, publicly funded programs that cover home and
21 community-based services for elders and individuals with
22 disabilities are limited, and

23 WHEREAS, federal and state programs provide limited support
24 for home and community-based services that serve as an
25 alternative to institutional care, and

26 WHEREAS, support is needed to develop consistent quality
27 assurance measures for home and community-based services, and

28 WHEREAS, individuals receiving home and community-based
29 services deserve an assurance of protection from abuse and

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30 neglect, and

31 WHEREAS, home and community-based services benefit not only
32 our parents and grandparents, but also our children and
33 grandchildren, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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

38 (1) Increase federal financial assistance and encourage
39 states to increase financial assistance for, and broaden access
40 to, publicly supported home and community-based services for
41 elders and individuals with disabilities; and

42 (2) Implement on the federal and state level more unified
43 training and supervision standards for certified nurse
44 assistants and home health aides.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
46 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
47 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
48 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
49 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.