

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 35
2 BY WEIGEL, KOENIGS, DREES, MERTZ, and FALLON
3 A Concurrent Resolution to request that the United
4 States Congress provide funds to increase the
5 reimbursement levels to Iowa hospitals and
6 health care providers.
7 WHEREAS, Iowa's hospitals form the backbone of
8 Iowa's health care infrastructure and constitute a
9 vital component of Iowa's communities; and
10 WHEREAS, Iowa requires a fully operational network
11 of hospitals in urban and rural counties, providing
12 access to acute services; and
13 WHEREAS, hospitals' ability to provide quality
14 services depends upon sufficient funding and
15 reimbursement for services; and
16 WHEREAS, Iowa's rural hospitals are particularly
17 dependent upon the federal Medicare program as a
18 source of reimbursement; and
19 WHEREAS, the federal Medicare program has not
20 increased payments to reflect increased inflation; and
21 WHEREAS, the average payment to Iowa hospitals
22 through the Medicare program ranked 49th nationally in
23 1991; and
24 WHEREAS, in 1993 Iowa ranked 50th lowest among the
25 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto
26 Rico in benefits provided per enrollee in the Medicare
27 program; and
28 WHEREAS, the average loss to Iowa hospitals per
29 case reimbursed through Medicare was projected to be
30 \$763 per case in 1994; and

1 WHEREAS, the loss to Iowa hospitals in 1994 is
2 estimated to be \$108 million through provision of
3 patient services through the Medicare program; and
4 WHEREAS, Medicare payments to Iowa's hospitals are
5 lower than all surrounding states; and
6 WHEREAS, insufficient Medicare reimbursement
7 results in cost shifting to private payers, thereby
8 complicating efforts to control costs and implement
9 health reforms; and
10 WHEREAS, Medicare reimbursement levels are
11 established by the federal government; NOW THEREFORE,
12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
13 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Congress of the United
14 States be requested to provide funds to increase
15 reimbursement levels to Iowa hospitals and health care
16 providers under the Medicare program, to more fully
17 reflect the cost of services provided to Medicare
18 recipients; and
19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
20 resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the United
21 States House of Representatives, the President of the
22 United States Senate, and all members of Iowa's
23 congressional delegation.

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