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HUMAN RESOURCES

S. adopted 2/2/98
H. adopted 2/19/98

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 102

2 BY TINSMAN and BOETTGER

3 A Concurrent Resolution requesting the United States
4 Department of Health and Human Services to revise a
5 proposed rulemaking for implementing welfare reform
6 and requesting the United States Congress to provide
7 oversight.

8 WHEREAS, the primary purpose of the federal
9 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
10 Reconciliation Act of 1996 in providing Temporary
11 Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grants is to
12 reform six decades of welfare, focusing on helping
13 families to move toward economic self-sufficiency by
14 promoting work and supporting the family structure;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, to accomplish the primary purpose, United
17 States Congress increased the flexibility of the
18 states in providing welfare assistance, shifting
19 authority to the states from the federal government in
20 order to maximize innovation and creativity,
21 recognizing that "one size does not fit all," and that
22 states need this flexibility to best serve their
23 citizens; and

24 WHEREAS, the emphasis on flexibility has been
25 adopted by the state of Iowa by heavily involving
26 citizens from around the state in shaping the state's
27 welfare assistance programs in a manner so as to
28 engage community investment in the success of the
29 families participating in welfare programs; and

30 WHEREAS, the notice of proposed rulemaking for TANF

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1 issued in November 1997 by the United States
2 Department of Health and Human Services,
3 Administration for Children and Families, includes
4 provisions which may reduce flexibility, cause a shift
5 in resources from families to data collection, and
6 unnecessarily limit state responsibility for prudently
7 expending state moneys; NOW THEREFORE

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF
9 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the United States
10 Department of Health and Human Services,
11 Administration for Children and Families, is urged to
12 revise the proposed rulemaking as follows: eliminate
13 provisions which would expand the scope of activities
14 considered to be administrative costs; eliminate
15 requirements for purchased services to be subject to
16 administrative cost allocation; drop the
17 interpretation that calculation of the administrative
18 cost limitation is to be applied against the net of
19 transfers to federal Title XX and to child care block
20 grant services; limit data reporting requirements to
21 those explicitly required under the federal Act; allow
22 time for any new data collection requirements to be
23 thoughtfully integrated with existing requirements;
24 eliminate new requirements on state maintenance of
25 effort funding; and eliminate those requirements which
26 have been identified by states as creating a
27 disincentive for the states to develop and to
28 implement state-funded approaches targeted to special
29 needs populations; and

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the United States

1 Congress is requested to provide oversight of the
2 proposed rulemaking to address the concerns of Iowa
3 and other states and to ensure that the overall and
4 specific effects of the rulemaking are consistent with
5 the purposes intended by Congress for implementation
6 of the federal Personal Responsibility and Work
7 Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
9 resolution be sent by the Secretary of the Senate to
10 the President of the United States; the Secretary of
11 Health and Human Services; the Administrator of the
12 Department of Health and Human Services,
13 Administration for Children and Families; the Majority
14 Leader of the United States Senate; the Speaker of the
15 House of Representatives of the United States; and
16 members of Iowa's congressional delegation.

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