

RULES & ADMINISTRATION

FILED JAN 27 '03

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

2 BY SEYMOUR, ANGELO, BEALL, BEHN, BLACK, BOETTGER,
3 BOLKCOM, BRUNKHORST, CONNOLLY, COURTNEY, DEARDEN,
4 DOTZLER, DRAKE, DVORSKY, FRAISE, GASKILL, GRONSTAL,
5 HATCH, HOLVECK, HORN, HOSCH, HOUSER, IVERSON, JOHNSON,
6 KETTERING, KIBBIE, KREIMAN, LAMBERTI, LUNDBY, MCCOY,
7 MCKIBBEN, MCKINLEY, MILLER, PUTNEY, QUIRMBACH, RAGAN,
8 REDFERN, REHBERG, SCHUERER, SENG, SHULL, SIEVERS,
9 STEWART, TINSMAN, VEENSTRA, WARNSTADT,
10 WIECK, and ZIEMAN

11 A Concurrent Resolution relating to the federal Medicare
12 program and requesting assistance from the federal
13 government.

14 WHEREAS, the federal Medicare program provides
15 health care coverage for more than 485,000 Iowa senior
16 citizens and disabled persons; and

17 WHEREAS, all Americans equally contribute payroll
18 taxes to fund the federal Medicare program; and

19 WHEREAS, Iowa has a disproportionately large number
20 of federal Medicare enrollees, making Iowa health care
21 providers particularly dependent on federal Medicare
22 payments as a revenue source; and

23 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Medicare and
24 Medicaid Services of the United States Department of
25 Health and Human Services, Iowa hospitals provide the
26 eighth highest quality care of any state in the
27 nation; and

28 WHEREAS, the current federal Medicare funding
29 formula has created inequitable payments, leaving Iowa
30 with the lowest per-enrollee payment level in the

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1 nation; and

2 WHEREAS, Iowa's unfairly low federal Medicare
3 payments are a drain on Iowa's economy, costing the
4 state of Iowa approximately \$1 billion annually in
5 Medicare reimbursement funding that could aid in the
6 payment of health care costs of Medicare-eligible
7 residents; and

8 WHEREAS, Iowa's unfairly low federal Medicare
9 payments make it difficult to recruit physicians,
10 nurses, and other health care professionals, who are
11 in great demand throughout Iowa and the nation; and

12 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has the
13 authority to pass legislation to address Iowa's
14 Medicare equity concerns; NOW THEREFORE,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF
16 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the General Assembly
17 of the State of Iowa urges the United States Congress
18 to pass legislation that addresses Iowa's Medicare
19 equity concerns; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
21 Resolution be sent by the Secretary of the Senate to
22 the President of the United States, the President of
23 the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United
24 States House of Representatives, and to all members of
25 Iowa's congressional delegation.

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