

1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 105
2 BY WARNSTADT, KREIMAN, BOLKCOM, BEALL, SENG, DEARDEN,
3 DVORSKY, CONNOLLY, KIBBIE, RAGAN, COURTNEY, DOTZLER,
4 FRAISE, GRONSTAL, STEWART, HORN, QUIRMBACH, HATCH,
5 McCOY, HOLVECK, and BLACK
6 A Resolution encouraging Congress to pass legislation
7 allowing National Guard and Reserve members
8 eligibility for TRICARE on a permanent basis.
9 WHEREAS, members of the National Guard and Reserve
10 have been called upon more routinely over the past two
11 years to perform combat and combat support missions
12 throughout the world; and
13 WHEREAS, historically, members of the National
14 Guard and Reserve and their families have been
15 eligible for health care coverage only upon
16 activation, but lost that coverage upon deactivation;
17 and
18 WHEREAS, based on a report of the United States
19 General Accounting Office, more than 20 percent of
20 National Guard and Reserve members have not had health
21 care coverage and 40 percent of members ages 19 to 35
22 have not had coverage; and
23 WHEREAS, lack of health care coverage adversely
24 impacts the medical and combat readiness of National
25 Guard and Reserve members, thereby lengthening the
26 mobilization process; and
27 WHEREAS, Congress recently passed the federal
28 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense
29 and for the Reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan of
30 2004 providing, in part, for the enrollment of

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1 National Guard and Reserve members in the military
2 health care program known as TRICARE; and

3 WHEREAS, even though the Act finally provides
4 health care coverage to National Guard and Reserve
5 members on a cost-share basis, whether or not they are
6 on active duty, the Act is only effective until
7 September 30, 2004; NOW THEREFORE,

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the United
9 States Congress is encouraged to pass legislation to
10 allow members of the National Guard and Reserve to be
11 eligible for participation in TRICARE beyond September
12 30, 2004, on a permanent basis; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is the intent of
14 the Senate that a copy of this Resolution be
15 distributed to members of the Iowa congressional
16 delegation.

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