

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 328

Sponsors: Representatives Warren; Cox, Earle, Insko, Morris, Russell, and Wainwright.

Referred to: Aging, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

March 1, 2001

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ADOPT INCENTIVES THAT
2 ENCOURAGE THE PURCHASE OF PRIVATE LONG-TERM CARE
3 INSURANCE AND TO ELIMINATE FEDERAL BARRIERS TO THE
4 EXPANSION OF MEDICAID LONG-TERM CARE PARTNERSHIP PLANS.

5 Whereas, 60% of persons who live to age 65 will need long-term care
6 sometime during their lifetime; and

7 Whereas, the number of older adults in North Carolina is growing faster than
8 in most other states and is expected to reach 21.4% of the State's population by year
9 2025; and

10 Whereas, as the number of people who need long-term care services grows,
11 so will the need for additional public expenditures, posing major financial implications
12 for state, county, and federal governments; and

13 Whereas, for many individuals and families, the need for long-term care can
14 result in financial ruin or hardship; and

15 Whereas, private long-term care insurance can help pay for the costs of
16 long-term care; and

17 Whereas, private long-term care insurance can not only help preserve
18 individual or family assets, it also offers persons more choice of providers than does
19 Medicaid or other public sources that pay for services; and

20 Whereas, Medicaid long-term care partnership plans encourage individuals to
21 purchase private long-term care insurance by allowing covered persons to qualify for
22 Medicaid when the private coverage is exhausted; and

23 Whereas, Medicaid long-term care partnership programs are limited by
24 federal law to four states: California, Indiana, New York, and Connecticut; and

25 Whereas, legislation has been introduced in Congress to provide additional
26 financial incentives to encourage the purchase of private long-term care insurance, to
27 wit, federal tax deduction not tied to medical expenses, group coverage option for
28 federal employees and certain family members, use of funds in flexible spending

1 accounts, and allowing long-term care insurance coverage in cafeteria plans; Now,
2 therefore,

3 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

4 **SECTION 1.** The North Carolina General Assembly urges Congress to enact
5 federal incentives that encourage taxpayers to purchase private long-term care
6 insurance.

7 **SECTION 2.** The North Carolina General Assembly urges Congress to
8 repeal federal laws that limit the expansion of Medicaid long-term care partnership
9 plans.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall send certified copies of this
11 resolution to all members of the North Carolina Congressional delegation, the United
12 States Secretary of Health and Human Services, the United States Secretary of Labor,
13 the United States Secretary of the Treasury, and the President.

14 **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.