106TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 225

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States has an obligation to serve its veterans' health needs, that future congressional budget resolutions should reflect the ongoing need of the Nation's veterans, and that the Committees on Appropriations should provide the financial resources needed by the Veterans Health Administration to meet future demands.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 10, 1999

Ms. Hooley of Oregon (for herself, Mr. Gibbons, Mr. Holt, Mr. Evans, Mr. Filner, Mr. Davis of Florida, Ms. Berkley, Mr. Peterson of Minnesota, Mr. Reyes, Mr. Clement, Mr. Hill of Indiana, Mr. Boyd, Mr. Kind, Mr. Boswell, Mr. Pomeroy, Mr. Kleczka, Mr. Bentsen, Mr. Moore, Mr. Gonzalez, Mrs. Jones of Ohio, Mr. Capuano, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Maloney of Connecticut, Ms. Schakowsky, Mr. Inslee, Mr. Weygand, Mr. Kanjorski, Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Sandlin, Mr. Sherman, Mrs. Maloney of New York, Ms. Carson, Mr. Walden, and Mr. Abercrombie) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States has an obligation to serve its veterans' health needs, that future congressional budget resolutions should reflect the ongoing need of the Nation's veterans, and that the Committees on Appropriations should provide the financial resources needed by the Veterans Health Administration to meet future demands.

- Whereas the Veterans Health Administration expects to increase its fiscal year 2000 workload, as reflected in the number of patients served, some 24 percent over fiscal year 1996 levels;
- Whereas the Veterans Health Administration budget has been increased by nearly 10 percent over 1997 levels for fiscal year 2000;
- Whereas maintaining this increase in future Veterans Health Administration budgets will help avoid delayed or inadequate delivery of both health care and health services to sick and disabled veterans;
- Whereas accessible high-quality health care, long-term care, and mental health care are of great importance to the Nation's veterans; and
- Whereas many veterans have incurred diseases or disabilities during their service for the Nation and are in need of regular medical attention: Now, therefore, be it
 - 1 Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate
 - 2 concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—
 - 3 (1) the United States has a responsibility to
 - 4 serve its veterans;
 - 5 (2) future congressional budget resolutions and
 - 6 laws making appropriations for the Veterans Health
 - Administration should reflect the ongoing need for
 - 8 quality veterans health care; and
 - 9 (3) the congressional committees of jurisdic-
- tions should act in accordance with this resolution.