

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 164

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Federal laws relating to the provision of health care must allow women direct access to obstetrician-gynecologists and other health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics and gynecology.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 1999

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Federal laws relating to the provision of health care must allow women direct access to obstetrician-gynecologists and other health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics and gynecology.

Whereas the Federal Government should increase its support for women's health and can make a significant difference in improving the status of women's health;

Whereas obstetrician-gynecologists and other health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics and gynecology are uniquely qualified on the basis of education and experience to provide preventive health services to women throughout their lives;

Whereas 60 percent of office visits to obstetrician-gynecologists are for preventive care;

Whereas preventive care provided by an obstetrician-gynecologist or other health care professional who specializes in obstetrics and gynecology includes instruction in breast self-examination, cervical cancer screening, health education, hypertension and cardiovascular surveillance, osteoporosis counseling, and identification of victims of domestic violence;

Whereas obstetrician-gynecologists refer their patients to other physicians less frequently than other providers, avoiding costly and time-consuming referrals; and

Whereas more than 37 States have acted to promote direct access to obstetrician-gynecologists: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That is it the sense of the House of Rep-  
 2       resentatives that Federal laws relating to the provision of  
 3       health care must allow women direct access to obstetri-  
 4       cian-gynecologists and other health care professionals who  
 5       specialize in obstetrics and gynecology.

