

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 228

Expressing the sense of Congress that the National Family Caregiver Support Program should be fully funded to continue efforts to provide relief and necessary services to individuals who perform informal or unpaid care for the elderly and care for children under 18 years of age.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 24, 2003

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the National Family Caregiver Support Program should be fully funded to continue efforts to provide relief and necessary services to individuals who perform informal or unpaid care for the elderly and care for children under 18 years of age.

Whereas the need for long-term care is expected to increase in future years and will place additional demands on both public and private resources;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2001, long-term care services for individuals of all ages cost over \$151 billion, of which \$98.5 billion was spent on public programs;

Whereas the expansion of current programs is needed just to meet the needs of the increasing elderly population that is anticipated to double in size by 2030;

Whereas although family members provide the majority of most long-term care, most public funding is spent on institutional care;

Whereas community-based and home services that could best assist families are limited in their availability;

Whereas each year one in three Americans provides uncompensated care to one or more ill or disabled family members or friends;

Whereas nearly 52 million Americans—31 percent of the adult population between 20 and 75—offer “informal care” to a family member or friend who is ill or disabled;

Whereas approximately one in five Americans care for a sick family member at some point in their lives, demonstrating the ongoing nature of most informal care;

Whereas adults in their 40's and 50's are more likely to care for an ill elderly relative than are adults in their twenties or seventies;

Whereas the National Long-Term Care Survey indicates that if the work performed by informal caregivers was to be replaced by paid home care, the resulting costs would rise from \$45 billion to \$94 billion each year; and

Whereas the National Family Caregiver Support Program, established in 2000, offers relief and necessary services to individuals providing informal or unpaid care to the elderly, as well as to older persons who are caring for children under age 18: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the Na-*
3 *tional Family Caregiver Support Program, subpart 1 of*
4 *part E of title III of the Older Americans Act of 1965,*
5 *(42 U.S.C. 3030s—3030s-2), should be fully funded to*
6 *continue efforts to provide relief and necessary services to*
7 *individuals who perform informal or unpaid care for the*
8 *elderly and care for children under 18 years of age.*

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