

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 74

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 28, 2007

Received and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and
Pensions

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for additional research into the chronic neurological condition hydrocephalus, and for other purposes.

Whereas hydrocephalus is a serious neurological condition, characterized by the abnormal buildup of cerebrospinal fluids in the ventricles of the brain;

Whereas there is no known cure for hydrocephalus;

Whereas hydrocephalus affects an estimated one million Americans;

Whereas 1 or 2 in every 1000 babies are born with hydrocephalus;

Whereas over 375,000 older Americans have hydrocephalus, which often goes undetected or is misdiagnosed as dementia, Alzheimer’s disease, or Parkinson’s disease;

Whereas with appropriate diagnosis and treatment, people with hydrocephalus are able to live full and productive lives;

Whereas the standard treatment for hydrocephalus was developed in 1952, and carries multiple risks including shunt failure, infection, and overdrainage;

Whereas there are fewer than 10 centers in the United States specializing in the treatment of adults with normal pressure hydrocephalus;

Whereas each year, the people of the United States spend in excess of \$1 billion to treat hydrocephalus;

Whereas a September 2005 conference sponsored by 7 institutes of the National Institutes of Health—“Hydrocephalus: Myths, New Facts, Clear Directions”—resulted in efforts to initiate new, collaborative research and treatment efforts; and

Whereas the Hydrocephalus Association is one of the Nation’s oldest and largest patient and research advocacy and support networks for individuals suffering from hydrocephalus: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 (1) the Congress commends the Director of the
4 National Institutes of Health for working with lead-

1 ing scientists and researchers to organize the first-
2 ever National Institutes of Health conference on hydro-
3 drocephalus; and

4 (2) it is the sense of the Congress that—

5 (A) the Director of the National Institutes
6 of Health should continue the current collabora-
7 tion with respect to hydrocephalus among the
8 National Eye Institute; the National Human
9 Genome Research Institute; the National Insti-
10 tute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering;
11 the National Institute of Child Health and
12 Human Development; the National Institute of
13 Neurological Disorders and Stroke; the Na-
14 tional Institute on Aging; and the Office of
15 Rare Diseases;

16 (B) further research into the epidemiology,
17 pathophysiology, disease burden, and improved
18 treatment of hydrocephalus should be conducted
19 or supported; and

20 (C) public awareness and professional edu-
21 cation regarding hydrocephalus should increase
22 through partnerships between the Federal Gov-

1 ernment and patient advocacy organizations,
2 such as the Hydrocephalus Association.

Passed the House of Representatives February 27,
2007.

Attest: LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk.