THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 389 Session of 1990

INTRODUCED BY JOHNSON, HAYES, CESSAR, FARGO, MORRIS, HESS, VROON, WASS, SALOOM, KAISER, KONDRICH, COY, NAILOR, DELUCA, KENNEY, NAHILL, TRELLO, MARKOSEK, RUDY, LANGTRY, MAINE, PESCI, FARMER, BLAUM, DALEY, CARLSON, HASAY, HALUSKA, KOSINSKI, JACKSON, DISTLER, D. W. SNYDER, RAYMOND, LASHINGER, FOX, BILLOW, DIETTERICK, TELEK, TIGUE, MOEHLMANN, B. D. CLARK, HERSHEY, ADOLPH, MELIO, DAVIES, LAUGHLIN, DOMBROWSKI, OLASZ, CIVERA, FAIRCHILD, HAGARTY, GEIST, RICHARDSON, LEH, KASUNIC, MERRY AND BELARDI, NOVEMBER 12, 1990

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, NOVEMBER 12, 1990

A RESOLUTION

Memorializing Congress to reject any proposals which would erode 1 or eliminate any veterans' benefits or services as a means of 2 reducing Federal expenditures. 3 4 WHEREAS, It is reported that a committee within the Veterans 5 Administration has been studying and may recommend to Congress, 6 as a means of reducing the Federal budget, a number of proposals 7 which include the elimination of significant established benefits, services and entitlement programs for disabled 8 9 veterans; and 10 WHEREAS, These proposals would send a wrong strong signal to 11 Congress. They suggest the elimination of long-established, 12 necessary and vital entitlement programs for veterans, programs 13 which are vital to all veterans, particularly for those with 14 injuries or disabilities sustained while serving in the armed

1 forces of the United States; and

2 WHEREAS, It was the intent of the Congress of the United 3 States from the beginning of our Republic to make just and reasonable restitution for the service and sacrifice of those 4 men and women who have served in defense of this nation; and 5 6 WHEREAS, Successive Congresses and Administrations have recognized this obligation and reaffirmed our national 7 commitment to those who have served in nine succeeding major 8 armed conflicts, expanding this obligation, in Abraham Lincoln's 9 10 words, "To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for 11 his widow, and his orphan"; and

12 WHEREAS, Any reduction of established benefits and services 13 would be a betrayal of those veterans who have so gallantly 14 served in the past; and

15 WHEREAS, This commitment not only serves the veterans, the 16 widow and the orphan, but, by example and support, promotes the 17 national defense by giving reassurance to those who serve now or 18 those who may desire or have to serve in defense of this nation; 19 therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 21 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pause in its deliberations and, 22 while recognizing the seriousness of the current Federal budget 23 deficit, memorialize Congress to reject any proposal which would 24 erode or eliminate any veterans' benefit or service provided by 25 the Federal Government as a means of reducing Federal 26 expenditures; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to 28 the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each 29 member of Congress from Pennsylvania.