

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 628 Session of  
2002

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INTRODUCED BY BARD, BROOKS, HERMAN, FRANKEL, SCHRODER, M. BAKER,  
BASTIAN, BELARDI, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAWLEY, CORRIGAN,  
DeLUCA, FICHTER, FREEMAN, GRUCELA, HORSEY, LAUGHLIN, McCALL,  
MELIO, MUNDY, PETRARCA, PISTELLA, READSHAW, E. Z. TAYLOR,  
TRELLO, WASHINGTON, M. WRIGHT, YOUNGBLOOD AND HASAY,  
JUNE 26, 2002

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,  
JUNE 26, 2002

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## A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing Congress to pass legislation permitting  
2 importation from Canada of approved prescription drugs.

3 WHEREAS, The cost of prescription drugs continues to  
4 increase; and

5 WHEREAS, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
6 predict that spending on prescription drugs will increase by an  
7 average of 12% every year for the next decade; and

8 WHEREAS, In the United States, 35% of seniors lack drug  
9 coverage, 80% of retired persons take at least one prescription  
10 drug per day, and the average Medicare beneficiary will spend  
11 \$942 this year on their prescription drugs; and

12 WHEREAS, Many seniors are forced to choose between housing,  
13 food or their prescription drugs, since the average senior  
14 receiving Social Security is living on only \$780 per month; and

15 WHEREAS, There is a significant differential in prices of

1 prescription drugs between the United States and Canada, and the  
2 Federal General Accounting Office reported that prescription  
3 drugs in the United States were priced approximately 34% higher  
4 than the same products in Canada; and

5 WHEREAS, Under Federal law, it is illegal for individuals to  
6 go to Mexico, Canada or any other country with low-priced  
7 prescription drugs and bring them back into the United States;  
8 therefore be it

9 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly  
10 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize Congress to pass  
11 legislation permitting pharmacists and wholesalers to import  
12 Food and Drug Administration-approved prescription drugs from  
13 Canada on behalf of their customers in order to pass along the  
14 cost savings; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
16 the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States,  
17 the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, the  
18 presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member  
19 of Congress from Pennsylvania.