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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 161 Session of  
2003

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INTRODUCED BY WONDERLING, D. WHITE, SCHWARTZ, HUGHES, WAGNER,  
BRIGHTBILL, MOWERY, M. WHITE, TARTAGLIONE, KUKOVICH, EARLL,  
BOSCOLA, C. WILLIAMS, ORIE, CONTI, KITCHEN, ROBBINS, LOGAN,  
FERLO, SCARNATI, TOMLINSON, CORMAN, ERICKSON, COSTA, MUSTO,  
WAUGH, ARMSTRONG, O'PAKE, MELLOW, WOZNIAK, RHOADES, STACK,  
RAFFERTY AND THOMPSON, OCTOBER 23, 2003

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REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,  
OCTOBER 23, 2003

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing the President and Congress of the United States to  
2 not reduce veterans' health care benefits in the national  
3 budget.

4 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States is considering a  
5 proposed national budget that includes further reductions to  
6 veterans' health care benefits based on establishing new annual  
7 enrollment fees, more than doubling copay requirements and  
8 restricting long-term access to benefits for future veterans  
9 currently serving their country on active duty at home and  
10 abroad; and

11 WHEREAS, The proposed reductions to veterans' health care  
12 benefits come at a time when this country is experiencing a  
13 nationwide health care crisis that forces millions of senior  
14 citizens, many of whom are veterans living on fixed incomes, to  
15 choose between purchasing food or medical services and  
16 prescription drugs to treat life-threatening illnesses; and

1       WHEREAS, The health care benefit needs of veterans deserve to  
2 be given a higher priority in the national budget so as to  
3 ensure the full funding of veterans' health care programs;  
4 therefore be it

5       RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to  
7 not reduce veterans' benefits in the national budget;  
8 and be it further

9       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
10 the President of the United States, to the presiding officers of  
11 each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from  
12 Pennsylvania.