

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 42

Session of  
2001

INTRODUCED BY O'PAKE, BRIGHTBILL, STACK, COSTA, LAVALLE,  
HELFRICK, LOGAN, WAGNER, TARTAGLIONE, MUSTO, THOMPSON, BELL,  
KUKOVICH, TILGHMAN, MOWERY, GREENLEAF, SCHWARTZ, BOSCOLA,  
EARLL, FUMO, STOUT, KITCHEN AND HUGHES, MARCH 27, 2001

REFERRED TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, MARCH 27, 2001

## A RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing the President and the Congress of the United  
2 States to take steps to reduce the long waiting list for  
3 veterans to see a physician to obtain benefits at Veterans  
4 Administration medical centers.

5 WHEREAS, All Americans owe a great debt of gratitude to our  
6 military veterans for their brave and unselfish service to  
7 protect and defend the United States and all of its citizens;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Many World War II and Korean War veterans are  
10 retired and some have serious health problems that require  
11 prompt attention; and

12 WHEREAS, It is estimated that 16% of the 700,000 veterans  
13 from the Persian Gulf War are receiving disability compensation  
14 and/or treatment which further compounds the pressure on an  
15 already strained health service delivery system; and

16 WHEREAS, Some of these veterans are waiting seven to ten  
17 months to become eligible for benefits to which they are  
18 entitled; and

1       WHEREAS, Recent news accounts indicate that approximately  
2   4,600 veterans are on a waiting list to see a physician for  
3   initial approval of benefits at the Lebanon Veterans  
4   Administration Medical Center alone; therefore be it

5       RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6   memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States  
7   to take steps to reduce the waiting lists and end the outrageous  
8   delay of benefits that have been earned by the deserving  
9   veterans of our United States military services; and be it  
10  further

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