

RESOLUTION 1-S.F.No. 83

A resolution memorializing the Congress of the United States to restore full funding to the Veterans Administration Medical Centers.

WHEREAS, because of underfunding, the Veterans Administration Central Office has found it necessary to limit health care to those veterans mandated by public law; and

WHEREAS, in Minnesota, at the Minneapolis and St. Cloud Veterans Administration Medical Centers, a means test has been established to determine eligibility for health care; and

WHEREAS, some veterans who are inpatients requiring nonemergency inpatient care who have health insurance, Medicare, or substantial liquid assets, will be referred to the community not at the Veterans Administration expense; and

WHEREAS, other veterans who are outpatients will receive an initial evaluation and medications for up to 14 days, but will not be placed in an outpatient program and will not be scheduled for continued care; and

WHEREAS, placements for nursing home care will now be limited to a maximum of 90 days when the need primarily results from nonservice-connected disabilities; and

WHEREAS, providing over-the-counter drugs to patients, if the prescription is to be taken on an "as needed" basis, has been discontinued; and

WHEREAS, the cutbacks in medical care provided by the Veterans Administration means it will no longer provide veterans with the medical care they need and deserve; and

WHEREAS, it is irresponsible not to provide veterans with this medical care; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it urges the President and Congress of the United States to restore full funding to the Veterans Administration Medical Centers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota is directed to prepare certified copies of this memorial and transmit them to the President of the United States, the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Chief Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and to Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Presented to the governor January 26, 1989

Signed by the governor January 27, 1989, 9:45 a.m.