

Public Law 100-165
100th Congress

Joint Resolution

To designate the week beginning November 22, 1987, as "National Family Caregivers Week".

Nov. 13, 1987

[H.J. Res. 130]

- Whereas the number of Americans who are sixty-five or older is growing, with an unprecedented increase in the number of persons eighty-five or older;
- Whereas the incidences of frailty and disability increase among persons of advanced age;
- Whereas approximately 5.2 million older persons who reside in the community have disabilities that leave them in need of help with such daily tasks as food preparation, dressing, and bathing;
- Whereas families provide older persons help with such tasks, in addition to between 80 and 90 percent of the medical care, household maintenance, transportation, and shopping needed by older persons;
- Whereas families who give care to older persons face many additional expenses due to home modifications, equipment rental, and higher heating bills;
- Whereas 80 percent of the disabled elderly receive care from family members, most of whom are wives, daughters, and daughters-in-law, who often must sacrifice employment opportunities to provide such care;
- Whereas the role of the aged spouse as a principal caregiver has generally been understated;
- Whereas family caregivers are often physically and emotionally exhausted from the time and stress involved in caregiving activities;
- Whereas family caregivers need information about available community resources;
- Whereas family caregivers need respite from the strains of their caregiving roles;
- Whereas the contribution of family caregivers helps maintain strong family ties and assures support among generations; and
- Whereas there is a need for greater public awareness of and support for the care that family caregivers are providing: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the week beginning

