

105TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 585

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Health Care Financing Administration should adhere to the statutory deadlines for implementation of the prospective payment system for home health services furnished under the Medicare Program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 8, 1998

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. COMBEST, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. BARTON of Texas, and Mr. PAUL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Health Care Financing Administration should adhere to the statutory deadlines for implementation of the prospective payment system for home health services furnished under the Medicare Program.

Whereas the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 enacted specific programs to modernize Medicare into a sound fiscal system that provides Medicare beneficiaries with higher quality care while protecting taxpayers from the negative impacts of waste, fraud, and error;

Whereas the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) has stated that it will not be able to meet the statutory deadlines for the implementation of many of the programs mandated by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 because of the Year 2000 (Y2K) problems;

Whereas in fiscal years 1996 and 1997, HCFA did not make specific requests for funding for Y2K problems;

Whereas HCFA waited until fiscal year 1998 to request funding to fix its Y2K problems;

Whereas in response to HCFA's request for funding to fix the perceived Y2K problem, Congress appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services \$107,100,000 to fix these problems in fiscal year 1998;

Whereas in fiscal year 1999, HCFA has requested an additional \$241,600,000 to fix the Y2K problems; and

Whereas the goal of all changes to the method of reimbursement for home health services furnished under the Medicare Program is to preserve, protect, and strengthen the program and guarantee access to quality home health care for millions of Medicare beneficiaries: Now, therefore, be it

- 1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
- 2       resentatives that the Health Care Financing Administra-
- 3       tion should adhere to the statutory deadlines to establish
- 4       and implement the prospective payment system for home
- 5       health services furnished under the Medicare Program.

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