

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1059

By: Mass, Erwin and Frame of
the House

and

Stipe of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution memorializing the United States Congress to repeal specified provisions of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 that relate to home health care services and agencies; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 have placed severe restrictions on the delivery of home health care services, singling out home care services to bear an unreasonable and disproportionate burden for reactionary attempts at controlling Medicare expenditures; and

WHEREAS, these restrictions constitute an unnecessary and unwarranted overreaction to circumstances for which more appropriate and humane measures are readily available. The rapid growth of home care services demonstrates nothing more than response to an overwhelmingly unmet patient need for health care services delivered in the home; and

WHEREAS, those patients who desire and rely upon home health care will receive fewer services, declining health status and loss of independence. The inept effort to control Medicare costs by imposing these restrictions on the delivery of home health care services will result in increased, unnecessary and expensive

hospitalizations, physician appointments and entry into nursing home facilities; and

WHEREAS, the federal government proposes to enforce these restrictions even prior to the promulgation of rules or other official direction for application of the provisions of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, causing the closure or bankruptcy of numerous home care agencies and innumerable elderly and other chronically ill patients being left without any resource for reliable care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature memorializes the United States Congress to amend the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 by:

1. Repealing the Interim Payments for Home Health Services provisions of Section 4602; and
2. Repealing the Surety Bond Requirement contained in Section 43112(b).

THAT copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Oklahoma State Office in Washington, D.C., for distribution to the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation and to the President of the United States of America.

46-2-9409

CLD