

ENGROSSED SENATE  
CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION NO. 49

By: Wilcoxson, Aldridge,  
Branan, Brogdon, Cain,  
Capps, Coates, Coffee,  
Corn, Crutchfield, Dunlap,  
Fair, Fisher, Ford, Gumm,  
Harrison, Helton, Hobson,  
Horner, Johnson, Kerr,  
Laster, Laughlin, Lawler,  
Leftwich (Debbe),  
Lerblance, Littlefield,  
Maddox, Milacek, Monson,  
Morgan, Myers, Nichols,  
Price, Pruitt, Rabon,  
Reynolds, Riley, Robinson,  
Rozell, Shurden, Smith,  
Snyder, Taylor, Wilkerson,  
Williams and Williamson  
of the Senate

and

Greenwood of the House

A Concurrent Resolution urging the Congress of the United States to amend Section 1917(b)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act by deleting May 14, 1993, as the deadline for approval by states of long-term care partnership programs; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, current federal and state Medicaid program expenditures for long-term care services in Oklahoma exceed \$435 million annually, with the state's annual share at approximately \$130 million; and

WHEREAS, skyrocketing costs of providing care to persons who need assistance to meet daily needs have hit the middle class particularly hard; and

WHEREAS, the national average cost for nursing home care is approximately \$50 thousand per year; and

WHEREAS, costs to the state will rise due to increasing demands for services as the population ages; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the long-term care partnership program is to provide incentives to individuals to purchase long-term care

insurance, and thus minimize the financial burden to states when providing for the long-term care needs of their citizens under the Medicaid program. The long-term care partnership program allows individuals who exhaust qualified private long-term care policy benefits to protect an equivalent value of assets and still meet financial eligibility requirements under Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, the concept of long-term care partnerships results in private insurance paying first and government paying last; and

WHEREAS, California, Connecticut, Indiana and New York, four states that have had long-term care partnership programs for almost a decade, have experienced significant savings to taxpayers and have seen less than 100 total partnership purchasers qualify for Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, American citizens in 46 states, the District of Columbia and territories of the United States are unable to enjoy the benefits provided by long-term care partnership programs due to a restriction in Section 1917(b)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act (49 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. §1396p(b)(1)(C)), which discourages additional states from enacting long-term care partnership programs by effectively removing the major incentive for individuals to participate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature hereby memorializes the United States Congress to amend Section 1917(b)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act (49 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. §1396p(b)(1)(C)) by deleting May 14, 1993, as the deadline for approval by states of long-term care partnership programs, thus affording citizens in all states the ability to participate in such programs.

THAT a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of each house of the United States Congress and to each member of the Oklahoma congressional delegation.

Adopted by the Senate the 9th day of March, 2004.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
2004.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives