

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. RES. 535

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives concerning use of additional projected surplus funds to supplement Medicare funding, previously reduced under the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 27, 2000

Mr. BILBRAY (for himself and Mrs. WILSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a priod to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives concerning use of additional projected surplus funds to supplement Medicare funding, previously reduced under the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

Whereas Congress is responsible for oversight and spending under the Medicare program;

Whereas the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 was passed in response to major economic concerns about inflation in costs in the Medicare program;

Whereas the savings resulting from enactment of that Act exceeded the estimates at the time of enactment and has

resulted in payment rates for classes of providers below the rates previously anticipated;

Whereas the Congress adjusted some elements of the Medicare program in the Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999;

Whereas a significant number of Medicare+Choice organizations is withdrawing, or considering withdrawing, from the Medicare+Choice program because of inadequate reimbursement rates;

Whereas the Medicare prescription drug bill pending in the Congress will delay the date by which Medicare+Choice organizations must decide whether to remain in the Medicare+Choice program from July 1, 2000, to October 1, 2000; and

Whereas, because of improved economic performance, it is anticipated that the Congressional Budget Office in its mid-year reestimates will project dramatically increased non-Social Security surpluses above those assumed in the adoption of the most recent Congressional Budget Resolution for fiscal year 2001: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
 2 resentatives that, upon receipt of such mid-year CBO re-
 3 estimates, the House of Representatives shall promptly as-
 4 sess the budgetary implications of such reestimates and
 5 provide for appropriate adjustments to the Medicare pro-
 6 gram during this legislative session.

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