

HR0138

LRB096 09015 DRJ 19154 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Home Care is a cost effective alternative in the 3 continuum of care for thousands of Illinois citizens with 4 chronic illnesses or injuries or those recovering from surgery; 5 and

6 WHEREAS, Advances in medical technology allow health 7 professionals to provide the highest level of care in a 8 nurturing home environment; and

9 WHEREAS, Home Care keeps families together; and

10 WHEREAS, Home Care allows older citizens to remain 11 independent and postpones or eliminates the need for 12 institutionalization; and

13 WHEREAS, Home Care allows children with chronic illness 14 remain in their homes and live lives that are not defined by 15 their illness; and

16 WHEREAS, Home Care promotes healing and prevents 17 infection; and

18 WHEREAS, Home Care provides a positive environment for 19 individuals improving their quality of life and, in many cases, HR0138 -2- LRB096 09015 DRJ 19154 r extending life; and

2 WHEREAS, Home Care is a cost-effective health care 3 solution, with per-capita expenditures that are 75-95% percent 4 lower than other care alternatives; and

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5 WHEREAS, There are more than 750 licensed home health 6 providers in Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, Home health is among the fastest growing 8 professions in the country; and

9 WHEREAS, The current Illinois Medicaid reimbursement rate 10 is threatening the availability of home health care; and

11 WHEREAS, Illinois' Medicaid reimbursement rate is the 12 lowest of all Midwestern states and one of the lowest in the 13 nation; and

14 WHEREAS, Home Care providers are currently reimbursed for 15 less than half of their actual operating expenses; therefore, 16 be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 18 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that 19 the Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall identify HR0138 -3- LRB096 09015 DRJ 19154 r and target resources to increase the capacity to meet needs and desires of the population who could benefit from home health care and to prepare for future demands to build the capacity in the system now and into the future; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be delivered to 6 the Director of Healthcare and Family Services.