

## Senate Resolution 82

By: Senators Goggans of the 7th, Golden of the 8th, Thomas of the 54th, Hill of the 32nd, Stephens of the 27th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to amend Section 1917(b)(1)(C) of the federal  
2 Social Security Act by deleting May 14, 1993, as the deadline for approval by states of  
3 long-term care partnership plans; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, current federal and state medical assistance expenditures for long-term care  
5 services in the State of Georgia are significant expenses affecting federal and state budgets;  
6 and

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

9 WHEREAS, the national average cost for nursing home care is approximately \$50,000.00  
10 per year; and

11 WHEREAS, costs to the State of Georgia will rise on account of increasing demands for  
12 services as our population ages; and

13 WHEREAS, the purpose of the long-term care partnership program is to provide incentives  
14 to individuals to purchase long-term care insurance and consequently to relieve the financial  
15 burdens on the states when they assume payment for the long-term care needs of their  
16 citizens under the Medicaid program by allowing individuals who exhaust qualified private  
17 long-term care policy benefits to protect an equivalent value of assets and still satisfy  
18 Medicaid's financial eligibility requirements; and

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

1 WHEREAS, the four states that have had partnership plans for over a decade, specifically  
2 California, Connecticut, Indiana, and New York, have experienced significant savings to  
3 taxpayers and have seen less than 100 total partnership purchasers qualify for Medicaid; and

4 WHEREAS, American citizens in 46 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories of  
5 the United States are being discriminated against by not being able to enjoy the benefits  
6 provided by long-term care partnership plans due to a restriction present in Section  
7 1917(b)(1)(C) of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 1396p(b)(1)(C)) which  
8 has discouraged additional states from enacting long-term care partnership programs by  
9 effectively removing the major incentive for individuals to participate.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
11 GEORGIA that the members of this body urge the Congress of the United States to amend  
12 Section 1917(b)(1)(C) of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 1396p(b)(1)(C))  
13 by deleting May 14, 1993, as the deadline for approval by states of long-term care  
14 partnership plans and afford states throughout the nation the ability to give their citizens the  
15 same rights to participate in those types of plans.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
17 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the presiding officers of each house of  
18 the Congress of the United States and to each member of the Georgia congressional  
19 delegation.