

Senate Resolution 353

By: Senators Hill of the 4th and Douglas of the 17th

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging Congress to oppose current budget proposals which would be damaging to Georgia
2 veterans who depend on the state veterans homes; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the federal budget proposal for fiscal year 2006 for the federal Department of
4 Veterans Affairs contains proposed changes having the goal of refocusing veterans medical
5 services in such a manner as to exclude from care many veterans now receiving these
6 services and who will continue to need them in the coming years; and

7 WHEREAS, although the budget proposal professes that current patients receiving nursing
8 home care will continue to receive care until discharge, in fact there are no plans to provide
9 for such continuing care; and

10 WHEREAS, if the budget proposal is adopted as proposed, 70 percent of the veterans now
11 receiving care face eviction from the veterans homes, and many will be turned out into the
12 street or encounter other situations where their needs will not be met; and

13 WHEREAS, the image of placing veterans in situations that may cause them to undergo
14 homelessness and poverty is disgraceful, and the idea of veterans with ambulatory
15 Alzheimer's disease living in nonsecure locations where they may become victims of crime,
16 vehicle accidents, exposure to the elements, and similar catastrophes is scandalous; and

17 WHEREAS, these veterans gave a part of their lives, often a large part, so we can live in
18 opulence, and the least we can do is care for them in their time of need.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
20 urge the United States Congress to amend the budgetary provisions that would be so
21 damaging to the most needy of our veterans.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
- 2 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Congressional Delegation.