

## Senate Resolution 140

By: Senators Hill of the 32nd, Heath of the 31st, Rogers of the 21st and Hudgens of the 47th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to enact legislation that would amend the Medicare  
2 program so as to authorize the use of private individual medical accounts to assist individuals  
3 in saving the resources necessary to pay for their health care needs in retirement; and for  
4 other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, it is widely agreed that the Medicare program is in need of major structural  
6 changes if it is to remain a viable alternative for the health care needs of future generations;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, in 1996, Medicare expenditures made up 12 percent of the federal budget, more  
9 than double the level in 1975; and

10 WHEREAS, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that at the current rate, by 2006  
11 Medicare will consume 18 percent of the federal budget – more than the United States’  
12 education, crime, and defense budgets combined; and

13 WHEREAS, during the lifetime of the next generation, Medicare’s income will only cover  
14 60 percent of its expenditures; and

15 WHEREAS, the existing method of funding Medicare by taking an ever-increasing payroll  
16 tax out of the paychecks of working Americans to pay for the medical benefits of retired  
17 Americans is a pyramid scheme which cannot be maintained in future years; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1998, there were four workers to pay taxes to support each Medicare  
19 beneficiary, and by the year 2030, there will only be two workers for each beneficiary; and

20 WHEREAS, in the 1996 Annual Report of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust  
21 Fund, the Medicare Trustees predicted that the Medicare program would be depleted by the  
22 year 2001.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
2 that the members of the U.S. Congress are urged to enact legislation amending the Medicare  
3 program to allow for the creation of a system of individual medical accounts wherein  
4 individuals will build a fund over their working careers that will provide the resources to pay  
5 for their health care needs in retirement.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
7 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to each member of the Georgia  
8 Congressional delegation.