

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 223

Expressing the sense of the Congress that any legislation that is enacted to provide for comprehensive national health care reform should provide for coverage of syringes for individuals who have been diagnosed with diabetes and who require the administration of insulin by syringe.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 1994

Ms. FURSE submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that any legislation that is enacted to provide for comprehensive national health care reform should provide for coverage of syringes for individuals who have been diagnosed with diabetes and who require the administration of insulin by syringe.

Whereas more than 14,000,000 individuals in the United States have diabetes;

Whereas diabetes contributes to more than 160,000 deaths annually in the United States;

Whereas diabetes costs the Nation approximately \$92,000,000,000 annually in direct and indirect medical costs;

Whereas diabetes disproportionately affects Hispanic, Native American, African-American, and other medically underserved populations;

Whereas approximately 10 percent of individuals with diabetes require the injection of insulin to manage the disease;

Whereas research has proven that frequent administration of insulin prevents certain complications of diabetes, such as blindness, kidney disease, heart disease, stroke, and the need for amputation;

Whereas sterile syringes are necessary to safely administer insulin by injection; and

Whereas most health care benefit plans currently provide coverage for sterile syringes to administer insulin: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that any
3 legislation that is enacted to provide for comprehensive na-
4 tional health care reform should provide for coverage of
5 syringes for individuals in the United States who have
6 been diagnosed with diabetes and who require the adminis-
7 tration of insulin by syringe.

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