

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

**H. J. RES. 159**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION**

To designate the month of November in 1993 and  
1994 as "National Hospice Month".

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## **JOINT RESOLUTION**

To designate the month of November in 1993 and 1994  
as “National Hospice Month”.

Whereas hospice care has been demonstrated to be a humanitarian way for terminally ill patients to approach the end of their lives in comfort with appropriate, competent, and compassionate care in an environment of personal individuality and dignity;

Whereas hospice advocates care for the patient and family by attending to their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs and specifically, the pain and grief they experience;

Whereas hospice care is provided by an interdisciplinary team of physicians, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, psychological and spiritual counselors, and community volunteers trained in the hospice concept of care;

Whereas hospice has become a full partner in the Nation's health care system;

Whereas the enactment of a permanent medicare hospice benefit and an optional medicaid hospice benefit makes it possible for many more Americans to have the opportunity to elect to receive hospice care;

Whereas private insurance carriers and employers have recognized the value of hospice care by the inclusion of hospice benefits in health care coverage packages; and

Whereas there remains a great need to increase public awareness of the benefits of hospice care: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2       *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the month of November in 1993 and 1994 is des-  
4       ignated as "National Hospice Month". The President is  
5       requested to issue a proclamation calling upon all govern-  
6       ment agencies, the health care community, appropriate  
7       private organizations, and people of the United States to  
8       observe each of those months with appropriate forums,  
9       programs and activities designed to encourage national  
10      recognition of and support for hospice care as a humane

- 1 response to the needs of the terminally ill and as a viable
- 2 component of the health care system in this country.

Passed the House of Representatives November 18,  
1993.

Attest:

*Clerk.*