

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 63

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for additional research into the chronic neurological condition hydrocephalus, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 19, 2007

Mr. REID (for Mrs. CLINTON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for additional research into the chronic neurological condition hydrocephalus, and for other purposes.

Whereas hydrocephalus is a serious neurological condition, characterized by the abnormal buildup of cerebrospinal fluids in the ventricles of the brain;

Whereas there is no known cure for hydrocephalus;

Whereas hydrocephalus affects an estimated 1,000,000 Americans;

Whereas 1 or 2 in every 1,000 babies are born with hydrocephalus;

Whereas over 375,000 older Americans have hydrocephalus, which often goes undetected or is misdiagnosed as dementia, Alzheimer’s disease, or Parkinson’s disease;

Whereas, with appropriate diagnosis and treatment, people with hydrocephalus are able to live full and productive lives;

Whereas the standard treatment for hydrocephalus was developed in 1952, and carries multiple risks including shunt failure, infection, and overdrainage;

Whereas there are fewer than 10 centers in the United States specializing in the treatment of adults with normal pressure hydrocephalus;

Whereas, each year, the people of the United States spend in excess of \$1,000,000,000 to treat hydrocephalus;

Whereas a September 2005 conference sponsored by 7 institutes of the National Institutes of Health—“Hydrocephalus: Myths, New Facts, Clear Directions”—resulted in efforts to initiate new, collaborative research and treatment efforts; and

Whereas the Hydrocephalus Association is one of the Nation’s oldest and largest patient and research advocacy and support networks for individuals suffering from hydrocephalus: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 (1) Congress commends the Director of the Na-
4 tional Institutes of Health for working with leading
5 scientists and researchers to organize the first-ever

1 National Institutes of Health conference on hydro-
2 cephalus; and

3 (2) it is the sense of Congress that—

4 (A) the Director of the National Institutes
5 of Health should continue the current collabora-
6 tion with respect to hydrocephalus among the
7 National Eye Institute, the National Human
8 Genome Research Institute, the National Insti-
9 tute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering,
10 the National Institute of Child Health and
11 Human Development, the National Institute of
12 Neurological Disorders and Stroke, the Na-
13 tional Institute on Aging, and the Office of
14 Rare Diseases;

15 (B) further research into the epidemiology,
16 pathophysiology, disease burden, and improved
17 treatment of hydrocephalus should be conducted
18 or supported; and

19 (C) public awareness and professional edu-
20 cation regarding hydrocephalus should increase
21 through partnerships between the Federal Gov-
22 ernment and patient advocacy organizations.

○