

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

# H. RES. 315

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that previously authorized construction to improve medical facilities administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should not be delayed by the national health care reform debate.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 1993

Mrs. VUCANOVICH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that previously authorized construction to improve medical facilities administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should not be delayed by the national health care reform debate.

Whereas 27,000,000 veterans under the jurisdiction of the Department of Veterans Affairs reside in the United States and need quality health care;

Whereas medical facilities administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs in the United States are limited and include only 171 medical centers, 128 nursing home care units, and 276 outpatient clinics;

Whereas many of the facilities are currently maintained in substandard condition;

Whereas doors to some patients' rooms are not large enough to permit evacuation of patients in their beds in the event of fire or other emergency, some facilities lack sprinkler systems or air conditioning, and some facilities contain asbestos hazards;

Whereas the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has decided not to begin construction on several projects that are intended to improve medical facilities under the Secretary's jurisdiction;

Whereas the projects have already been authorized by the Congress;

Whereas the Secretary plans to continue this delay until the Secretary determines the effects of the President's health care reform proposal on the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

Whereas the debate on national health care reform is expected to be a lengthy and tedious process: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-  
2       resentatives that construction on projects to build, ren-  
3       ovate, or otherwise improve medical facilities that are ad-  
4       ministered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should not  
5       be delayed by the current national health care reform de-  
6       bate if the projects have already been authorized by the  
7       Congress.

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