

By: Kolkhorst

S.C.R. No. 34

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Graduate medical education (GME) is a vital
2 component of the nation's health system infrastructure, as it
3 enables physicians who have recently graduated from medical school
4 to continue their training through internship, residency, and
5 fellowship programs; and

6 WHEREAS, Medicare currently allocates funding for GME
7 nationwide, but payments vary significantly depending on the state;
8 for example, Medicare funds only 18 GME residents per 100,000
9 people in Texas, while it funds 77 GME residents for the same
10 population in New York; moreover, such physicians in Texas receive
11 subsidies that are less than half of that of their New York
12 counterparts; and

13 WHEREAS, Instead of continuing with this unequal system,
14 Medicare should allocate funding for GME based on projected growth
15 in state population and on the individual health care needs of each
16 state; and

17 WHEREAS, It is essential for the U.S. government to determine
18 how best to improve health care in our country using limited federal
19 dollars; to further that mission, Medicare should implement a new
20 formula that allows all states to receive more equitable funding
21 for graduate medical education; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas
23 hereby urge the United States Congress to ensure the fair
24 allocation of Medicare funding for graduate medical education to

1 all states; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state forward official copies
3 of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the
4 president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
5 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
6 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
7 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
8 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.