

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to assign to an appropriate study committee the topic of increasing the number for geriatricians and related healthcare professionals in Indiana.

MRVAN

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council
2 to assign to an appropriate study committee the topic of
3 increasing the number of geriatricians and related healthcare
4 professionals in Indiana.

5 *Whereas, There is a future demand for geriatric care*
6 *because Americans are living longer, and therefore are*
7 *accumulating more diseases and disabilities;*

8 *Whereas, Approximately, 80% of older adults require care*
9 *for chronic conditions such as hypertension, arthritis, and heart*
10 *disease;*

11 *Whereas, Those 65 and older are expected to account for*
12 *almost 20% of the United States population by 2030, and will*
13 *be eligible for Medicare by 2030;*

14 *Whereas, There is a shortage of healthcare providers*
15 *certified or specializing in geriatrics. Currently, there are*
16 *fewer than 1,600 geriatric psychiatrists. There are fewer than*
17 *1% of registered nurses (RNs), pharmacists, and physician*
18 *assistants, and about 2.6% of advance practice registered*
19 *nurses (APRNs) certified in geriatrics;*



1 *Whereas, There are currently over 7,500 allopathic and*
2 *osteopathic certified geriatricians in the United States. It's*
3 *projected that approximately 30% of the 65+ patient*
4 *population will need to be cared for by a geriatrician and each*
5 *geriatrician can care for a patient panel of 700 older adults.*
6 *Therefore, approximately 17,000 geriatricians are needed now*
7 *to care for about 12 million older Americans;*

8 *Whereas, Due to the projected increase in the number of*
9 *older Americans, it is estimated that approximately 30,000*
10 *geriatricians will be needed by 2030. To meet this need will*
11 *require training of approximately 1,200 geriatricians per year*
12 *over the next 20 years;*

13 *Whereas, The already severe shortages in several*
14 *healthcare professions - including geriatrics - will become*
15 *more prevalent, considering that the number of Indiana*
16 *residents over age 65 will double between 2000 and 2030, the*
17 *segment of the population that uses health care services the*
18 *most;*

19 *Whereas, Few medical students are choosing geriatrics,*
20 *putting the future supply of geriatricians and other*
21 *professionals in jeopardy. In 2010, a mere 75 residents in*
22 *internal medicine or family medicine entered geriatric medicine*
23 *fellowship programs - down from 112 in 2005; and*

24 *Whereas, With the supply of geriatricians in jeopardy, older*
25 *adults will not receive the care they need: Therefore,*

26 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
27 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

28 SECTION 1. The Legislative Council is urged to assign to an
29 appropriate study committee the topic of increasing the number of
30 geriatricians and related healthcare professionals in Indiana.

