

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.11

Senator McBroom, Barrett, Daley, Horn, Johnson and Wojno offered the following concurrent resolution:

1 A concurrent resolution to urge the Centers for Medicare and
2 Medicaid Services to promptly approve a variance regarding shared
3 bathroom facilities at the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans.

4 Whereas, The D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans provides a home-
5 like environment that meets a range of care needs, including
6 skilled nursing care. Former service members choose the D.J.
7 Jacobetti Home for Veterans for the unique environment it provides,
8 which includes the comradery gained by living with other veterans.
9 Because this population is predominantly male, it differs
10 significantly from most skilled nursing environments; and

11 Whereas, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
12 requires skilled nursing facilities to equip each resident room
13 with its own bathroom. If a facility wants to provide shared

1 bathrooms, CMS must approve a variance, an exemption from these
2 federal regulations; and

3 Whereas, 105 of the 186 beds at the D.J. Jacobetti Home for
4 Veterans, all occupied by male residents, do not meet this bathroom
5 requirement because they offer shared bathroom facilities. This
6 means they are currently ineligible to be dually certified for
7 Medicare and Medicaid like the other 81 beds; and

8 Whereas, There are times when a veteran eligible for Medicare
9 or Medicaid benefits seeks placement in this facility, but the only
10 available beds are non-certified. Veterans face the difficult
11 position of choosing between receiving only partial benefits to be
12 able to stay at the D. J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans and being
13 able to use all of their entitled benefits, a right they have
14 earned through their service to our country; and

15 Whereas, The advantages gained by allowing veterans to fully
16 utilize the health benefits available to them by approving a
17 variance from CMS bathroom requirements far outweigh any potential
18 issues. Veterans deserve to be able to live where they choose
19 without sacrificing any of their health benefits; now, therefore,
20 be it

21 Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives
22 concurring), That we urge the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
23 Services to promptly approve a variance regarding shared bathroom
24 facilities at the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans; and be it
25 further

26 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
27 Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services,
28 the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human
29 Services, and the Director of the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.