

**HCR 12 – AS INTRODUCED**

2014 SESSION

14-2358  
05/06

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION      **12**

A RESOLUTION      urging Congress to fund the development and implementation of a comprehensive health care delivery system to enhance the level of specialty care for New Hampshire's veterans.

SPONSORS:              Rep. Baldasaro, Rock 5

COMMITTEE:            State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs

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ANALYSIS

This resolution urges Congress to fund the development and implementation of a comprehensive health care delivery system to enhance the level of specialty care for New Hampshire's veterans.

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**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen*

A RESOLUTION urging Congress to fund the development and implementation of a comprehensive health care delivery system to enhance the level of specialty care for New Hampshire's veterans.

1       Whereas, New Hampshire is a proud and patriotic state with approximately 131,000 veterans  
2 with the majority over the age of 65 who have served their country bravely and risked their lives to  
3 preserve our country's freedom and democracy, and their sacrifices on our behalf are deserving of an  
4 upgraded medical delivery system to meet their health care needs; and

5       Whereas, New Hampshire is largely a rural state with limited access to the interstate highway  
6 system requiring veterans residing in many rural communities who may be ill and elderly to travel  
7 many miles to appointments for even minor procedures often placing undue and unnecessary stress  
8 on sick or injured veterans and their families; and

9       Whereas, many New Hampshire veterans residing in rural communities frequently miss  
10 essential checkups and therapies due to inclement weather and lack of proper transportation; and

11       Whereas, timely medical treatment would improve the overall health and quality of life of  
12 veterans by preventing numerous strokes, by-passes, amputations, and other costly but preventable  
13 conditions; and

14       Whereas, many New Hampshire veterans over the age of 65 do not have access to a primary care  
15 provider; and

16       Whereas, veterans residing in rural communities deserve the same level of care as veterans  
17 residing in other areas of the state; and

18       Whereas, New Hampshire is one of only 2 states in the nation without a full-service hospital,  
19 requiring veterans to travel to Vermont, Massachusetts, Maine, and Rhode Island for medical  
20 treatment; and

21       Whereas, adequate care of our veterans should be the concern of all Americans; now, therefore,  
22 be it

23       Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

24       That the New Hampshire legislature respectfully urges the Congress of the United States and  
25 the Department of Veterans Affairs to fulfill the department's goal of providing excellence in patient  
26 care by increasing the types of and access to specialty care at a full-service VA Manchester Medical  
27 Center, or by developing a pilot program to utilize a veterans' medical card for use in  
28 New Hampshire's medical facilities in order to provide better care to veterans residing in rural  
29 areas, or by establishing additional community-based outpatient clinics, outpatient clinics, or vet  
30 centers as justified by veterans' medical and mental health needs, along with greater use of mobile  
31 clinics, and where cost effective, by entering into contract services with the goal of increasing  
32 services and reducing travel time to ensure access to health care is available when it is needed; and

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1           That the house clerk forward official copies of this resolution to the President of the  
2 United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the  
3 United States Senate, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and to all the members of the  
4 New Hampshire congressional delegation with the request that this resolution be officially entered in  
5 the Congressional Record as a high priority for the Congress of the United States of America.