

1 State of Arkansas  
2 81st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 1997

S.C.R. 22

4  
5 By: Senator Russ  
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## 8 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

9 REQUESTING THE U.S. CONGRESS TO APPROPRIATE MONEY TO FULLY  
10 FUND THE FEDERAL SHARE OF STATE VETERANS HOME CONSTRUCTION  
11 PROJECT REQUESTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998.  
12

### 13 **Subtitle**

14 REQUESTING CONGRESS TO FULLY FUND THE  
15 FEDERAL SHARE OF STATE VETERANS HOME  
16 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT REQUESTS FOR FISCAL  
17 YEAR 1998.  
18

19 WHEREAS, the State Veterans Homes were founded for Civil War veterans  
20 in the late 1800s and have served veterans for over one hundred years; and

21 WHEREAS, under the provisions of Title 38, United States Code, the  
22 Veterans Administration is authorized to make aid payments to states  
23 maintaining State Veterans Homes subject to the provisions of the Code of  
24 Federal Regulations, 38 CFR 18.1 through 18.3; and

25 WHEREAS, there are eighty-seven State Veterans Home Care Facilities in  
26 forty-two states throughout the United States with more being added annually;  
27 and

28 WHEREAS, the State Veterans Home Program has proven to be a cost-  
29 effective provider of quality care services to the nations veterans who  
30 require domiciliary, nursing home, and hospital care; and

31 WHEREAS, the Veterans Administration promotes the care and treatment of  
32 veterans in State Veterans Homes as a means to attain the goal of developing  
33 and maintaining the highest possible quality of patient care for eligible  
34 veterans; and

35 WHEREAS, Title 38, United States Code, authorizes the Grants for  
36 Construction of State Veterans Homes Program, with the State Home

1 Construction Grant Program funded at sixty-five percent of total cost; and

2 WHEREAS, the Veterans Administration has not kept pace with State  
3 Veterans Homes applications for new construction projects with a current  
4 unfunded balance of over two hundred million dollars; and

5 WHEREAS, Title 38, United States Code, authorizes per diem payments paid  
6 to veterans residing in the State Homes and the State Home Program is  
7 recognized as the lowest cost alternative among all nursing care alternatives  
8 used by the Veterans Administration; and

9 WHEREAS, given the growing long-term health care needs of older  
10 veterans, the State Home Program will continue to be a vital health care  
11 provider and lowest cost alternative for veterans needing long-term nursing  
12 care,

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14 NOW THEREFORE,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE  
16 OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

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18 That the United States Congress is requested to appropriate the money  
19 necessary to fully fund the federal share of State Veterans Homes  
20 construction project requests for the fiscal year 1998.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this Resolution, the  
22 Secretary of the Senate shall transmit appropriately certified copies hereof  
23 to the Arkansas Congressional Delegation in Washington, D. C., the State of  
24 Arkansas Veterans Coalition and to the Arkansas Governors Commission on  
25 Veterans Affairs.

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