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Resolution to Recognize National Day of Recognition for LTC Physicians Passes House

Columbia, MD--Late on Friday, March 19, the U.S. House of Representatives voted on and passed a concurrent resolution (H. Con.Res 244) calling for the designation of March 20th as the National Day of Recognition for Long Term Care Physicians. This initiative started with an AMDA House of Delegates resolution (A09) from the Georgia Medical Directors Association (GMDA) honoring the memory and work of AMDA founder William Dodd, MD, CMD.

Senator Saxby Chambliss (R-GA) and Representative Phil Gingrey (R-GA) sponsored and introduced concurrent resolutions (S.Con.Res 52 and [H.Con.Res 244](#)). During Friday's debate on the House floor, AMDA and founder William Dodd, MD, CMD, were recognized as the House honored "an esteemed long term care Georgia physician, Dr. William Dodd."

A concurrent resolution, such as this one, is a formal statement that must be passed by both houses of the Congress, stating the opinion of Congress or permitting some action that does not require the President's approval. The resolution now must pass the Senate. The official House of Representatives vote can be accessed at <http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2010/roll147.xml>.

"It is appropriate that Long Term Care Physician's Day be on Dr. Billy Dodd's birthday, March 20th. He was a community physician who recognized that residents of nursing homes were patients with complex medical problems. Physicians needed to be involved in establishing the standards of management and clinical care for our most vulnerable elderly. We all can see in the succeeding decades how right he was. This recognition day will encourage the other team members in our nursing facilities to celebrate their physicians' contributions," said former GMDA Executive Director Perry Kemp.

"We are pleased that our Congressional representatives recognize the unique and valuable role long term care physicians play," says AMDA Executive Director Lorraine Tarnove. She adds, "This is an exciting development, and we will be watching the progress of this resolution with great interest."

For more information visit: <http://www.amda.com/advocacy/legal/recognition.cfm>

The American Medical Directors Association (AMDA) is the national professional association of medical directors, attending physicians, and other professionals practicing long term care medicine committed to the continuous improvement of patient care. The organization provides education, advocacy, information, and professional development for medical directors and other practitioners from various disciplines working together to deliver quality long term care. www.amda.com