

**1999 DRAFTING REQUEST**

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

Received: **03/24/99**

Received By: **dykmapj**

Wanted: **Soon**

Identical to LRB:

For: **Gary Sherman (608) 266-7690**

By/Representing: **him**

This file may be shown to any legislator: **NO**

Drafter: **dykmapj**

May Contact:

Alt. Drafters:

Subject: **Memorials - Congress to**

Extra Copies:

**Pre Topic:**

No specific pre topic given

**Topic:**

VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain Michigan

**Instructions:**

See Attached

**Drafting History:**

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/1	dykmapj 03/24/99	gilfokm 03/24/99	jfrantze 03/25/99	_____	lrb_docadmin 03/25/99	lrb_docadmin 03/25/99	

FE Sent For:

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FE Sent For:

<END>



**REPRESENTATIVE GARY E. SHERMAN**  
74th Assembly District

State Capitol  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708  
(608) 266-7690  
Toll-free: 1-888-534-0074  
Fax: (608) 282-3674  
E-mail: rep.sherman@legis.state.wi.us

District Address:  
11800 Sherman Road  
P.O. Box 157  
Port Wing, WI 54865  
715-774-3113

TO: LRB drafter

FROM: Representative Gary Sherman

DATE: March 24, 1999

Please draft a Joint Resolution memorializing congress to not cut 9 beds from the 17 beds available at the VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, MI.

See attached

Thank you

**Boots:**

I would like to make a drafting request for a joint resolution memorializing congress to not cut 9 beds from the 17 beds available at the VA Medical Center at Iron Mountain, Michigan.

Many of the vets in northeast Wisconsin, including in the eastern part of our district, rely on the Iron Mountain facility for ICU and surgery. The beds are always full, in spite of the fact that 40% of the users were from at least 70 miles away from the facility. As of December 20, 1998, there were 13,921 vets registered for care.

Even worse, they are converting the remaining facility from ICU, surgery, etc to a monitored and acute stabilization unit. This means that serious patients will have to be transported to Milwaukee, a distance of from 220 to 440 miles. This not only removes the patients from proximity to their support network (like family), but also requires that Advance Life Support units be available to transport these seriously ill patients. Many of these people will be in no condition to travel such a distance, especially over northern Wisconsin roads. Some people may even die who could otherwise have been saved had the ICU been available at Iron Mountain. The cost of the transport will also be high, \$1,200 to \$1,800 per one way trip.

This plan represents a drastic decrease in the health services available to these veterans, who unselfishly served America in time of need.



## 1999 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

*Handwritten signatures*

*Handwritten mark*

1 **Relating to:** memorializing congress to not reduce the number of beds for intensive  
2 care and surgery at the Veteran's Administration's Medical Center at Iron  
3 Mountain, Michigan.

4 Whereas, many of the veterans in northeast Wisconsin rely on the Veteran's  
5 Administration's Medical Center at Iron Mountain, Michigan for intensive care and  
6 surgery; and

7 Whereas, the beds at the center are always full, in spite of the fact that at least  
8 40% of the patients are from at least 70 miles away from the center; and

9 Whereas, the Veteran's Administration is planning to eliminate 9 of the 17 beds  
10 at the center, and to convert the space to a monitored and acute stabilization unit;  
11 and

12 Whereas, seriously ill patients will be forced to be transported to Milwaukee,  
13 which is 220 to 440 miles away, thereby separating them from their family and  
14 friends at a critical time in their lives and subjecting them to additional health risks;  
15 and



**SUBMITTAL  
FORM**

**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
Legal Section Telephone: 266-3561  
5th Floor, 100 N. Hamilton Street**

The attached draft is submitted for your inspection. Please check each part carefully, proofread each word, and sign on the appropriate line(s) below.

**Date:** 3/25/99

**To:** Representative Sherman

**Relating to LRB drafting number:** LRB-2604

**Topic**

VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain Michigan

**Subject(s)**

Memorials - Congress to

*Per PJD  
03-25-99*

1. **JACKET** the draft for introduction \_\_\_\_\_

in the **Senate** \_\_\_\_ or the **Assembly**  (check only one). Only the requester under whose name the drafting request is entered in the LRB's drafting records may authorize the draft to be submitted. Please allow one day for the preparation of the required copies.

2. **REDRAFT.** See the changes indicated or attached \_\_\_\_\_.

A revised draft will be submitted for your approval with changes incorporated.

3. Obtain **FISCAL ESTIMATE NOW**, prior to introduction \_\_\_\_\_.

If the analysis indicates that a fiscal estimate is required because the proposal makes an appropriation or increases or decreases existing appropriations or state or general local government fiscal liability or revenues, you have the option to request the fiscal estimate prior to introduction. If you choose to introduce the proposal without the fiscal estimate, the fiscal estimate will be requested automatically upon introduction. It takes about 10 days to obtain a fiscal estimate. Requesting the fiscal estimate prior to introduction retains your flexibility for possible redrafting of the proposal.

If you have any questions regarding the above procedures, please call 266-3561. If you have any questions relating to the attached draft, please feel free to call me.

Attorney Peter J. Dykman, Deputy Chief  
Telephone: (608) 266-7098