

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 51

Expressing the sense of Congress that Federal mandates to States should be rescinded unless they are accompanied by sufficient funds to pay for them.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 24, 1993

Mr. DREIER submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Operations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that Federal mandates to States should be rescinded unless they are accompanied by sufficient funds to pay for them.

Whereas the burden of Federal mandates on State and local governments has increased precipitously in recent years;

Whereas State and local spending on mandatory programs has increased from 30 percent in 1962 to 50 percent in 1992;

Whereas cost estimates of this burden to the States range from \$15,000,000,000 to \$500,000,000,000;

Whereas the mandates for Medicaid alone cost the States \$44,000,000,000 in 1992;

Whereas mandates are a tool to create Government programs despite Federal spending limits and lead to more Govern-

ment than would arise if the Federal Government had to pay for the programs it required;

Whereas actions of the Federal Government that directly or indirectly prescribe the manner, standards, level, and conditions of public service to be provided by State and local governments are often taken with little regard for the fiscal consequences of such actions upon the affected State and local jurisdictions;

Whereas such mandates force State and local governments to exhaust scarce public resources to comply with their requirements;

Whereas mandates detract from the ability of State and local governments to use local public resources to meet local needs;

Whereas forcing States to implement and fund Federal mandates compromises the goals of Federal regulations and places States in the precarious position of either attempting to fund the Federal requirements with diminishing amounts of available revenue or jeopardizing eligibility for certain Federal funds;

Whereas Federal regulations are best carried out by Federal agencies, not State and local governments; and

Whereas this excessive fiscal burden has weakened the Federal system of Government and damaged intergovernmental relations: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
- 2 *concurring), That Congress should refrain from imposing*
- 3 *future mandates on States, and it should either rescind*
- 4 *previous mandates on States or provide the necessary*
- 5 *funds to carry out the requirements of the mandates.*

