

1 [Urging Congress to Pass H.R. 1667 - Acupuncture for Our Seniors Act]

2
3 **Resolution urging Congress to pass (House of Representatives) H.R. 1667, the**
4 **Acupuncture for Our Seniors Act, authored by Representatives Judy Chu and Brian**
5 **Fitzpatrick, to provide coverage for acupuncturist services under the Medicare**
6 **program.**

7
8 WHEREAS, In 1971, acupuncture was introduced to the American public, and more
9 than 7,000 clinical trials on acupuncture have been conducted globally: particularly as a
10 therapeutic treatment for cancer patients, auxiliary treatment of infertility, recovery treatment
11 for substance use disorder, and pain management; and

12 WHEREAS, The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Heal Initiative reported that nearly
13 20% of Americans suffer from chronic pain, demonstrating the need for pain management
14 options, especially non-pharmacological and evidence-based treatment options; and

15 WHEREAS, Acupuncture is considered a holistic approach to medicine that focuses on
16 a patient's physical, mental, spiritual and social needs, and serves as a lifeline for patients
17 who are non-responsive to conventional medicine; and

18 WHEREAS, Licensed acupuncturists are currently prohibited from being Medicare
19 providers, significantly limiting patients access to affordable treatment options and
20 practitioners; and

21 WHEREAS, In February 2025, Representatives Judy Chu and Brian Fitzpatrick
22 introduced H.R. 1667, the Acupuncture for Our Seniors Act, a bill that aims to recognize
23 licensed acupuncturists as Medicare providers and expand access to acupuncture treatments
24 for seniors; and

1 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), as
2 of March 2026, there are 70.2 million individuals enrolled in Medicare; and

3 WHEREAS, Of these 70.2 million people, 90.6% of enrollees are over the age of 65;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, CMS estimates that 10,000 Americans will become eligible for Medicare
6 every day over the next 20 years and that Medicare enrollment will reach 81 million by 2030;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, H.R. 1667 was referred to the Health Subcommittee of the House
9 Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Ways and Means, where it
10 currently sits; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of accessible
12 acupuncture services for seniors and Medicare patients; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges Congress to pass H.R.
14 1667; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
16 Francisco directs the Clerk of the Board to forward a copy of this Resolution to Representative
17 Brett Guthrie, Chairman of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Representative
18 Morgan Griffith, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Health for the House Committee on
19 Energy and Commerce, Representative Jason Smith, Chairman of the House Committee on
20 Ways and Means, and Representative Judy Chu.