

31**Ensuring the availability of appropriate care, services,
and treatment**

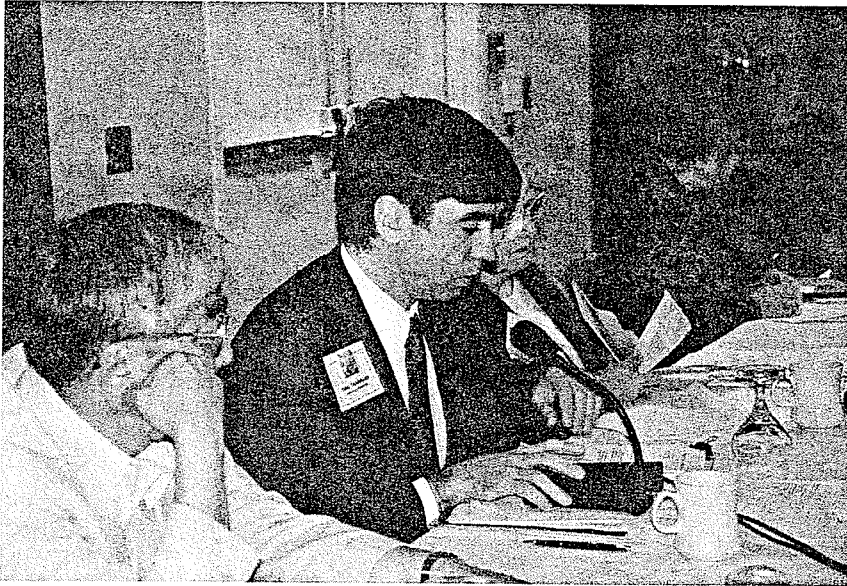
- 1 WHEREAS over 40 million Americans of all ages lack health insurance coverage;
- 2 WHEREAS older people are often ill-informed of their health care choices;
- 3 WHEREAS Americans age 65 and older are 10 times more likely to develop cancer than those under 65, yet less likely to be screened and get early treatment;
- 4 WHEREAS lack of information enhances fears and negative stereotypes, which act as barriers to care;
- 5 WHEREAS 34 insurance companies administer Medicare Part B, which leads to regional inconsistencies in benefits;
- 6 WHEREAS increasing numbers of persons with life-long and early onset disabilities are living longer;
- 7 WHEREAS many persons with chronic illnesses or disabilities, regardless of age, have common health care and disabilities-related needs that require access to a continuum of health care services;
- 8 WHEREAS older persons in rural areas and small communities generally have limited acute and long-term care services; and
- 9 WHEREAS a substantial number of older Americans will develop mental illness, yet are less likely than those under 65 to be screened and get early treatment;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1995 White House Conference on Aging to support policies that:

- 10 Set universal coverage for all ages now, and begin with the children;
- 11 Improve and expand information and referral services;
- 12 Increase availability of culturally and linguistically sensitive educational materials to ensure awareness of and access to appropriate assistance for individuals of all ages, including those with mental and/or physical disabilities;
- 13 Ensure greater consistency in Medicare carriers interpretation of national coverage policies;

Appendix D: Text of the Resolutions

- 14 Enhance access to care in all communities, particularly in underserved areas, including greater equity in provider payments through Medicare, incentives to attract providers to rural communities, and expansion of medical-related transportation and telecommunication services.



Advisory Committee meeting

Advisory Committee members

