

House Concurrent Resolution No. 38

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES OXFORD (Sponsor), FALLERT, NASHEED, ATKINS, TALBOY, SCAVUZZO, FRAME, WALTON GRAY, HOSKINS (80), MORRIS, CURLS, CORCORAN, HOLSMAN, SCHIEFFER, HUGHES, LOW, ROORDA, JONES (63), AULL, NORR, VOGT, KIRKTON, HODGES AND RUCKER (Co-sponsors).

1136L.011

1 **Whereas**, every person in Missouri and in the United States deserves access to
2 affordable, quality health care; and
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4 **Whereas**, there is a growing crisis in health care in the United States of America,
5 manifested in rising health care costs, increased premiums, out-of-pocket spending, decreased
6 international business competitiveness, and massive layoffs; and
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8 **Whereas**, more than 700,000 Missourians lacked health insurance in 2007 and an
9 estimated 1.46 million Missourians were uninsured for some time in 2006 or 2007; and
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11 **Whereas**, those insured now often experience unacceptable medical debt and
12 sometimes life-threatening delays in obtaining health care; and
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14 **Whereas**, one-half of all personal bankruptcies are due to illnesses or medical bills;
15 and
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17 **Whereas**, the establishment of the MO HealthNet program in 2008, which replaces
18 the state's current Medicaid program, and the rising cost of insuring state employees and teachers
19 can best be met not by limiting benefits, but by expanding them under a national, publicly-funded
20 health insurance program; and
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22 **Whereas**, the complex bureaucracy arising from our system of fragmented, for-
23 profit, multi-payer system of health care financing consumes approximately 30% of United
24 States health care spending; and

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26 **Whereas**, independent research by Kenneth E. Thorpe, PhD. found in 2003 that
27 if Missouri adopted a single-payer, universal health program with benefits more generous than
28 75% of all private insurance benefits in the state, Missouri health care spending would decline
29 by a savings of \$1.3 billion in administrative costs alone under a streamlined administrative
30 structure; and

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32 **Whereas**, United States Representative John Conyers has introduced the United
33 States National Health Insurance Act in the United States House of Representatives, which
34 would provide a universal, comprehensive, single-payer system of high quality national health
35 insurance:

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37 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
38 Representatives of the Ninety-fifth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
39 concurring therein, hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to enact the United States
40 National Health Insurance Act sponsored by Representative Conyers; and

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42 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
43 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for President
44 Barack Obama and each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

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