

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 51

## 96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES OXFORD (Sponsor), PACE, WALTON GRAY, McDONALD, McGEOGHEGAN, ELLINGER, SCHUPP, McNEIL, KIRKTON, NEWMAN, LAMPE, MONTECILLO, ATKINS, AULL, FALLERT, BROWN (50), HODGES, SCHIEFFER, JONES (63), SMITH (71), WEBB, CARTER, PETERS-BAKER, MAY, HUGHES, PIERSON AND TALBOY (Co-sponsors).

1917L.011

1           **WHEREAS**, every person in Missouri and 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, manifested in  
5 rising health care costs, increased premiums, out-of-pocket spending, decreased international  
6 business competitiveness, and massive layoffs; and

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8           **WHEREAS**, approximately 827,000 Missourians lacked health insurance in 2009; and

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10          **WHEREAS**, those insured now often experience unacceptable medical debt and  
11 sometimes life-threatening delays in obtaining health care; and

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13          **WHEREAS**, one-half of all personal bankruptcies are due to illnesses or medical bills;  
14 and

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16          **WHEREAS**, the rising cost of insuring state employees and teachers can best be met,  
17 not by limiting benefits, but by expanding them under a national, publicly funded health  
18 insurance program; and

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20          **WHEREAS**, the complex bureaucracy arising from our system of fragmented, for-profit,  
21 multi-payer system of health care financing consumes approximately 30% of United States health  
22 care spending; and

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24          **WHEREAS**, these problems are not solved by the 2010 federal health care reform  
25 legislation, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; and

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

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32           **WHEREAS**, United States Representative John Conyers has introduced H.R. 676, the  
33 Improved and Expanded Medicare for All Act, in the United States House of Representatives for  
34 the 112th Congress, and this act would provide a universal, comprehensive, single-payer system  
35 of high quality national health insurance:

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37           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
38 Representatives of the Ninety-sixth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
39 concurring therein, hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to enact the Improved  
40 and Expanded Medicare for All Act sponsored by United States Representative John Conyers;  
41 and

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43           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
44 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the  
45 President of the United States and each member of the Missouri Congressional Delegation.

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