

CS FOR HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 14(HSS)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/17/10

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES CHENAULT, Peggy Wilson, Keller, Kelly, Stoltze, Tammie Wilson, Olson, Dahlstrom, Ramras

A RESOLUTION

1 **Urging the United States Congress to oppose federal health care reform bills.**

2 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

3 **WHEREAS** the health care reform bills being considered in the United States House
4 of Representatives and the United States Senate

5 (1) will result in higher federal taxes and force new taxes and penalties on
6 Alaskans;

7 (2) will cut \$466,700,000,000 from the Medicare program;

8 (3) will require residents to purchase health insurance;

9 (4) will raise insurance premiums;

10 (5) fail to address access to and adequate reimbursement of primary care
11 providers, including doctors, nurses, and physician assistants;

12 (6) will cause Medicaid enrollment to increase by an additional 15,000,000 -
13 20,000,000 people;

14 (7) will impose a one-size-fits-all federally designed health insurance
15 exchange;

16 (8) will establish inflexible rating rules; and

1 (9) will impose unfunded mandates on states; and

2 **WHEREAS** higher taxes and penalties would be detrimental to the economy of the
3 state; and

4 **WHEREAS** Medicare cuts would decrease access to services for seniors and the
5 disabled; and

6 **WHEREAS** adding more people to the Medicaid program will result in significant
7 cost shifting to privately insured individuals and higher costs to states and territories; and

8 **WHEREAS** the National Association of State Budget Directors has demonstrated that
9 states and territories are in no position to comply with the maintenance of effort provisions
10 found in the federal health care reform bills or to accept the increases in costs or additional
11 administrative burdens required to expand Medicaid coverage; and

12 **WHEREAS** the unfunded mandates and special deals will place greater pressure on
13 the state budget and jeopardize funding for education, public safety, and other essential state
14 services; and

15 **WHEREAS** the Alaska Health Care Commission, in a report dated January 15, 2010,
16 stated that a "journey of transformation that will be many years in the making is required to
17 redesign and implement a more rational, coherent and sustainable system that will deliver the
18 highest quality of care at the most reasonable price in a way that protects providers and their
19 business interests, while protecting the interests of their consumers";

20 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives urges the Alaska
21 Congressional delegation to vote against the current health care reform bills and to develop
22 health care reform that is affordable and accessible to all legal residents; and be it

23 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives urges Governor Parnell
24 and the Administration to review the constitutionality of the special deals for other states
25 contained in the current federal health care reform bills.

26 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of
27 the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and
28 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate;
29 the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable
30 Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don
31 Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; the Honorable

- 1 Sean Parnell, Governor of Alaska; and the Honorable Daniel S. Sullivan, Alaska Attorney
- 2 General.