

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 21

Introduced by Janssen, 15.

Read first time January 12, 2011

Committee: Health and Human Services

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed and the President signed into law the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, on March 23, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Public Law 111-152, comprises America's comprehensive federal health care reform, which is commonly referred to as the Affordable Care Act; and

WHEREAS, the result of the Affordable Care Act will be to create a government takeover of the health care industry that will increase health care costs, raise taxes, hurt senior citizens, destroy jobs, reduce the quality of care that Americans will receive, restrict consumer choice, limit individuals' access to private health insurance, and reduce the ability of American companies to compete; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act will constrain the freedom of individuals to choose their own doctor and will interfere with individuals' ability to make personal health care decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act will cause spending for health care to escalate and policymakers to ration care as a cost-containment measure; and

WHEREAS, according to the Congressional Budget Office, the Affordable Care Act could cause millions of Americans who receive health insurance through their employer to lose their health insurance coverage. In addition, the Congressional Budget Office reports that premiums in the individual and small group markets may substantially increase; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services will dictate what benefits insurers must offer and how much they may charge; and

WHEREAS, in view of the fact that physicians lose money servicing government patients on medicare and medicaid, the Affordable Care Act will increase this problem by further reducing medicare and medicaid fees to doctors and hospitals and will discourage persons from entering the health care field; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act will increase taxes on employers who do not offer adequate insurance and will increase taxes on investment income, which in turn will reduce capital available for job expansion, reduce economic growth, and result in fewer jobs for Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act will harm seniors by making cuts from the medicare budget, causing seniors to lose the health insurance coverage they currently possess; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act will add to the national debt; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Affordable Care Act aimed at reducing health care spending address the symptoms of the cost of health care rather than the root causes of growth in health care spending.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature rejects the Affordable Care Act and calls for the repeal of the Affordable Care Act by the Congress of the United States.

2. That it is the opinion of the Legislature that all individuals should have the right to make decisions about their health care, and no law should be in effect that restricts a person's freedom of choice of private health care systems or private plans of any type.

3. That it is the opinion of the Legislature that no law should interfere with a person's or entity's right to pay directly for lawful medical services, nor should any law impose a penalty or fine of any type for choosing to obtain or decline health care coverage or for participation in any particular health care system or plan.

4. That the Clerk of the Legislature transmit copies of this Legislative Resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and the Nebraska Congressional Delegation.