



HR0702

LRB098 15049 MST 50012 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Health care and health insurance are among the highest necessities of life for more than 12,000,000 residents of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Health insurance policies previously offered for sale to American citizens, and enjoyed by them as the result of transactions in a voluntary marketplace, are being withdrawn and banned from sale, partly as a result of their partial compliance or non-compliance with a long and complex set of mandates that will be imposed upon American private-sector health insurance plans starting on January 1, 2014; and

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WHEREAS, Many of the men, women, and children who are currently learning that their health insurance policies will be much more expensive, or will not be renewed, live and work in Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, It is the duty of the Illinois House of Representatives to listen to the concerns of these individuals, who are faced with the imminent threat of not having insurance to provide for the random chances of health and life; and

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WHEREAS, These individuals had been told that if they wanted to keep their existing insurance policies, they would be

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1 able to do so, but current events are placing this pledge in  
2 serious doubt, and adding to a wave of apprehension and even  
3 fear among many thousands of Illinoisans as they search for  
4 health-care options for themselves and their loved ones; and

5 WHEREAS, Those Illinoisans who are searching for potential  
6 coverage in 2014 and following years on the federal website  
7 "HealthCare.gov" are finding a poorly designed website that, in  
8 many cases, is unable to offer customers a choice of insurance  
9 policies comparable to the policy choices that they previously  
10 enjoyed, or to the policy that they had previously purchased  
11 and wanted to continue to keep; and

12 WHEREAS, In some cases, customers find "HealthCare.gov"  
13 becomes unhelpful for them after they have submitted extremely  
14 confidential personal financial information about themselves,  
15 thereby potentially compromising their deepest privacy without  
16 giving them even the opportunity to purchase health care  
17 insurance in return; and

18 WHEREAS, Current United States' press coverage is  
19 providing background information to explain the poor  
20 performance of "HealthCare.gov", including the revelation that  
21 even after a series of emergency fixes is applied to the  
22 website over the next few weeks, the site is not expected to  
23 have the capacity to handle more than a fraction of the

1 inquiries and transactions that will be imposed upon it if all  
2 of the millions of Americans who have been mandated to purchase  
3 private-sector health care insurance under the Affordable Care  
4 Act attempt to do so using the key website; and

5 WHEREAS, Responding to this crisis, bipartisan members of  
6 the U.S. Congress have expressed their support for the  
7 principle that "if you have a health insurance policy and you  
8 like it, you ought to be able to keep it"; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
10 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
11 we support legislation currently up for passage in the United  
12 States House of Representatives, the Keep Your Health Plan Act  
13 (H.R. 3350), that will re-open the legal right of American  
14 citizens, including Illinoisans, to continue to buy and enjoy,  
15 in 2014, the health insurance policies that they voluntarily  
16 chose to buy to protect themselves in 2013; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That we congratulate the lawmakers of both  
18 parties that are working together to fix this problem in a  
19 spirit of problem-solving and bipartisanship; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That we affirm the right of Illinois citizens and  
21 residents to select their own health insurance policies on the  
22 basis of their own knowledge of what is appropriate for them,

1 and congratulate all of those who have spoken out, as citizens  
2 and as Americans, in defense of this right; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
4 provided to all 18 members of the Illinois Congressional  
5 Delegation and to U.S. Senators Richard J. Durbin and Mark  
6 Kirk.