

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 487**

Introduced by McCoy, 39.

Read first time March 18, 2014

Committee: Health and Human Services

WHEREAS, improving access to quality health care for all Nebraskans is essential to improving the health of the state's population and strengthening the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, health benefits for all Nebraskans should be attained in a manner that encourages personal responsibility, leverages insurance offered by employers and private insurance companies, and seeks to improve the health outcomes and financial security of those receiving benefits; and

WHEREAS, health insurance in Nebraska should be provided in a manner that encourages fiscal responsibility, safeguards the interests of Nebraska taxpayers, and protects Nebraska jobs; and

WHEREAS, health care reform enacted by the United States Congress should recognize that the most cost effective health care coverage fits the individual needs of the consumer and encourages increased competition, consumer choice, and cost reduction within the private marketplace; and

WHEREAS, such reform by Congress should allow small businesses and individuals to pool together to purchase health care coverage; and

WHEREAS, such reform by Congress should provide continuity and portability of coverage by allowing the purchase of health care coverage across state lines; and

WHEREAS, such reform by Congress should allow the purchase of health care coverage that does not infringe on a consumer's religious rights or personal beliefs; and

WHEREAS, such reform by Congress should seek to reform medical liability and thus mitigate defensive medicine practices and lower health care costs; and

WHEREAS, such reform by Congress should allow consumers greater flexibility in their health spending by easing restrictions on the utilization of health savings accounts; and

WHEREAS, such reform by Congress should include reforms to Medicaid to provide states greater flexibility in spending to maximize market efficiencies.

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

1. That the Legislature urges the United States Congress to take affirmative action to enact comprehensive health care reform which adopts the considerations, provides the protections, and secures the rights and interests described in this resolution.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to each member of Nebraska's congressional delegation.