

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 415

Introduced by Riepe, 12; Fox, 7; Hughes, 44; Kolterman, 24; Stinner, 48.

Read first time January 19, 2016

Committee: Health and Human Services

WHEREAS, United States Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D. (LA) introduced Senate Bill 1989 entitled Primary Care Enhancement Act of 2015 on August 5, 2015; and

WHEREAS, health care reform is needed to improve health outcomes and bend the cost curve; and

WHEREAS, direct primary care providers are able to improve health outcomes and reduce costs; and

WHEREAS, federal regulations are preventing fee-for-service medicare beneficiaries and most patients using health savings accounts from using direct primary care; and

WHEREAS, direct primary care offers unfettered access to comprehensive coverage for primary care services in a medical home setting using a flat-fee payment model; and

WHEREAS, direct primary care improves health care while reducing costs for patients, families, businesses, governments, and payers; and

WHEREAS, direct primary care empowers the patient-practitioner relationship; and

WHEREAS, direct primary care can offer medical students and residents an alternative to the fee-for-service profession; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the United States Department of Health and Human Services currently has no pathway for fee-for-service medicare beneficiaries to take advantage of direct primary care practitioners other than paying for services out-of-pocket; and

WHEREAS, employers are now offering direct primary care benefits to employees but current interpretations by the United States Internal Revenue

Service of health savings account laws make it difficult for other employers who use health savings accounts to offer direct primary care as a benefit.

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

1. That the Legislature urges the Nebraska congressional delegation to support and co-sponsor Senate Bill 1989 entitled Primary Care Enhancement Act of 2015.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to each member of the Nebraska congressional delegation and to United States Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D. (LA).