

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 7

Introduced by Fulton, 29.

Read first time January 16, 2009

Committee: Health and Human Services Committee

WHEREAS, the people of Nebraska, through their elected legislators, have chosen over time to provide health care coverage to various vulnerable populations through government-sponsored health care programs such as medicare, medicaid, and the State Children's Health Insurance Program; and

WHEREAS, these programs have served a vital role in the health and well-being of individuals and the general welfare of our state as a whole; and

WHEREAS, because different populations have different health needs, it has been important to the success of government-sponsored health care plans that those needs be taken into consideration when the structure and logistics of the programs are designed and implemented; and

WHEREAS, in some instances health care services involve matters literally of life and death or touch upon deeply personal areas that involve the moral, philosophical, or religious beliefs of families, particularly of parents with children; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families, as citizens and as taxpayers, should be afforded the opportunity to participate in or select health care plan options that do not violate their moral, philosophical, or religious beliefs; and

WHEREAS, the precedent for respecting the beliefs of individuals as they select and access government-sponsored health care programs was established by Congress in the federal employees health benefit system whereby federal employees have the option of choosing a health care plan consistent with their beliefs and values.

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

1. That the Legislature memorializes the members of its congressional delegation and the Congress of the United States to insure that parents of the poor, the working poor, and the disabled will be offered the option to enroll their children in government-sponsored health care plans that respect the beliefs and values of the parents, particularly as they relate to matters of abortion, abortifacients, contraception, sterilization, infanticide, and euthanasia.

2. That copies of this resolution be delivered to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, the United States Senate Majority Leader, the Minority Leaders of both the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Secretary of the United States

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Department of Health and Human Services, and all members of
Nebraska's congressional delegation.