

By: Delisi

H.C.R. No. 56

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, State Medicaid spending currently accounts for  
2 approximately twenty-two percent of total state spending; and

3 WHEREAS, Under the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage,  
4 the federal share of state Medicaid spending provided to the State  
5 of Texas has decreased by 4.2 percent over the past ten years; and

6 WHEREAS, Average monthly Medicaid caseloads in the State of  
7 Texas are projected to increase to 2,885,583 by fiscal year 2005  
8 from 2,376,193 in fiscal year 2003; and

9 WHEREAS, Prescription drug costs are a major factor driving  
10 Medicaid expenditures, and annual Medicaid prescription levels in  
11 the State of Texas are projected to rise to 40,257,515 by fiscal  
12 year 2005, from 33,859,094 in fiscal year 2003; and

13 WHEREAS, the Congressional Budget Office projects that  
14 Medicaid spending under the current system will more than double by  
15 the year 2012; and

16 WHEREAS, Section 1115 of the Social Security Act grants the  
17 Secretary of Health and Human Services broad authority to waive  
18 certain laws relating to Medicaid or SCHIP for the purpose of  
19 conducting pilot, experimental or demonstration projects which are  
20 "likely to promote the objectives" of the program; and

21 WHEREAS, Section 1115 demonstration waivers allow states to  
22 change provisions of their Medicaid or SCHIP programs, including:  
23 eligibility requirements; the scope of services available; the  
24 freedom to choose a provider; a provider's choice to participate in

1 a plan; the method of reimbursing providers; and the statewide  
2 application of the program; and

3 WHEREAS, The State of Florida has successfully experimented  
4 with a consumer directed care model under a Section 1115  
5 demonstration waiver; and

6 WHEREAS, In early 2002, both houses of the legislature of the  
7 State of Florida voted unanimously to continue with a consumer  
8 directed care approach; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas  
10 hereby respectfully urge the Secretary of the United States  
11 Department of Health and Human Services to authorize any section  
12 1115 demonstration waivers, and any other related waivers,  
13 requested by State of Texas for the purposes of implementing a  
14 consumer directed care program under the state medical assistance  
15 program; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
17 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, the  
18 speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the  
19 senate of the United States Congress, the secretary of the United  
20 States Department of Health and Human Services and all the members  
21 of the Texas delegation to the congress with the request that this  
22 resolution be officially entered into the Congressional Record of  
23 the United States of America.