

By: Laubenberg

H.R. No. 2202

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Institute for Health Policy Research is a
2 nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization focused on improving the health
3 of Texans through health policy education, community-based
4 solutions, and information dissemination; and

5 WHEREAS, Since 2000, the institute has hosted health policy
6 forums for the benefit of legislators and other health care
7 stakeholders on topics such as the uninsured, the health care
8 workforce, mental health, long-term care, emergency care, the
9 health safety net, and the state of health care in Texas; and

10 WHEREAS, The institute has worked with communities
11 throughout the state since 1997 to facilitate, develop, and sustain
12 community-based interventions in order to address pertinent health
13 care issues, such as access to care and chronic disease prevention;
14 the institute also hosts workshops and forums to bring together
15 community organizations from throughout Texas to share best
16 practices; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2003, the institute implemented the Shared Vision
18 for Health Care in Texas Project in order to establish a forum for
19 dialogue among policy makers, community leaders, health care
20 providers, payers, and consumers and to foster informed
21 decision-making; to that end, the governor, the lieutenant
22 governor, and the speaker of the house have each appointed a liaison
23 to work with the institute on the Shared Vision Project; and

24 WHEREAS, More than 600 volunteers have contributed their

1 time, talent, and expertise to the project, and this collaborative
2 statewide effort brings together stakeholders to provide
3 leadership in developing innovative practices and ideas to improve
4 the state's health care and health status; and

5 WHEREAS, One of the fundamental features of the project is
6 that individuals involved in health care issues from every sector
7 are included in the diverse bipartisan panel of 29 members; another
8 essential feature is the development of focused work groups of
9 experts to provide consultation and facilitation in key health
10 policy emphasis areas to all project participants; the topics
11 addressed by these work groups include community and public health,
12 health care delivery, workforce, financing of health care,
13 information technology, and rural health; and

14 WHEREAS, The work groups are collecting information on best
15 practices and are designing, overseeing, and providing guidance in
16 developing model demonstration projects to test ideas for improving
17 health and health status in Texas; findings from these projects
18 will be shared with health policy decision makers and stakeholders;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, In 2004, the Shared Vision Project panel defined
21 five elements of a shared vision for health care; they are: (1)
22 regional solutions to address regional differences within the
23 parameter of a statewide strategic plan; (2) a more rational system
24 for access other than through the emergency room; (3) incentives
25 for personal responsibility; (4) the sound use of resources in
26 addressing the health needs of a community or an individual; and (5)
27 the need to gather evidence-based information to develop a business

1 case to support health care improvements and educate the public
2 about the consequences of our current system; and

3 WHEREAS, The Shared Vision Project is creating an opportunity
4 for the strategic transformation of health care in our state, and
5 the methodology that it is employing makes Texas unique in the
6 United States; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
8 Legislature hereby congratulate the leadership of the 29-member
9 panel, the six work groups, and the institute; commend them in their
10 endeavors to provide input, recommendations, innovations, ideas,
11 and solutions to health care issues through the Shared Vision
12 Project; and welcome all persons or groups concerned with the
13 health of their families, friends, or coworkers to participate in
14 the Shared Vision Project for the betterment of our citizens and
15 improvement in the quality of life for all Texans; and, be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That the participants of the Shared Vision Project
18 be encouraged to provide written and oral public testimony
19 regarding legislative health care policy and to contribute input to
20 and receive collaboration from appropriate state boards, agencies,
21 institutions, and councils, including the Governor's Health Care
22 Policy Council, that are researching, establishing, or
23 implementing health care policy in the State of Texas, and that a
24 copy of any report developed by the institute be provided to the
25 governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of
26 representatives, and appropriate committee chairs of both houses;
27 and, be it further

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1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for the Texas Institute for Health Policy Research as an
3 expression of high regard from the Texas House of Representatives.