

By: Phelan

H.C.R. No. 89

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Sections 9010 and 10905 of the Patient Protection
2 and Affordable Care Act and Section 1406 of the Health Care and
3 Education Reconciliation Act impose a new sales tax on health
4 insurance that many policy experts agree will burden working
5 individuals and families, small businesses, and senior citizens,
6 contradicting a primary goal of health care reform by making
7 coverage more expensive; and

8 WHEREAS, Over a 10-year period, this tax will cause insurance
9 premiums on the individual market to increase by a national average
10 of \$2,150 for single coverage and \$5,080 for family coverage and by
11 a state average of \$2,128 for single coverage and \$4,800 for family
12 coverage; and

13 WHEREAS, The health insurance tax will also
14 disproportionately encumber small businesses through higher
15 expenses and cost the State of Texas billions of dollars in extra
16 government expenses; in addition, Medicaid beneficiaries will be
17 saddled with skyrocketing premiums, which will strain budgets,
18 decrease benefits, and potentially cause coverage disruption; and

19 WHEREAS, Exorbitant premiums are a disincentive for people to
20 obtain health insurance, especially younger, healthier
21 individuals, many of whom are more likely to forgo unaffordable
22 policies, which in turn diminishes the risk pool and makes medical
23 care even costlier; and

24 WHEREAS, The health insurance tax will stifle job creation,

1 increase health care expenses, and hurt the state economy, all
2 while leaving countless Texans without coverage and many insured
3 citizens with decreased benefits; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
5 hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to make health
6 care more affordable for individuals, families, and businesses by
7 enacting legislation to repeal the health insurance tax imposed by
8 Sections 9010 and 10905 of the Patient Protection and Affordable
9 Care Act and Section 1406 of the Health Care and Education
10 Reconciliation Act; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
12 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
13 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
14 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
15 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
16 this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record
17 as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.