

By: Landgraf

H.C.R. No. 29

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas could produce better health
2 outcomes for enrollees and could better protect taxpayers through
3 Medicaid block grants; and

4 WHEREAS, States are often constrained in delivering adequate
5 health care to residents in need because of onerous federal
6 regulations; block grants, however, would enable states to design
7 health care programs that best serve their citizens and to better
8 handle fluctuations in the economy, population growth, and health
9 care costs; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the Texas Health and Human Services
11 Commission, the state would have saved \$4 billion on health care in
12 2015 by using block grants instead of the present Medicaid model;
13 moreover, annual cost savings under a block grant program could
14 exceed \$6 billion by 2023; and

15 WHEREAS, Such savings could allow the state to increase
16 public education funding and relieve a notable burden from school
17 districts and property tax payers; currently, Texas provides less
18 than 40 percent of funding for school districts, with property
19 taxes making up the difference; without additional funding by the
20 state, the obligation will continue to fall to homeowners; and

21 WHEREAS, The current Medicaid program constrains the state's
22 ability to address health care needs at the local level and places
23 unnecessary financial strain on taxpayers; savings from block
24 grants would allow Texas to better address the needs of its citizens

1 at the local level; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas
3 hereby urge the United States Congress to provide the Lone Star
4 State with Medicaid block grants and allow Texas to administer its
5 own health care for the poor; and, be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
7 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
8 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
9 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all members
10 of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this
11 resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to
12 the Congress of the United States of America.