

By: Sheffield

H.C.R. No. 145

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC),  
2 with the support of the Legislature, has created an innovative  
3 health care safety net through the Health Care Transformation and  
4 Quality Improvement 1115 waiver; and

5           WHEREAS, the 1115 waiver has facilitated access to vital  
6 healthcare and mental health services, as well as substance abuse  
7 treatment, through the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment  
8 (DSRIP) program; and

9           WHEREAS, the DSRIP agreement with the Centers for Medicare  
10 and Medicaid Services (CMS) for approximately \$3 billion in annual  
11 funding permanently ends in 2021; and

12           WHEREAS, it is critical to negotiate a new waiver-based  
13 solution based on Texas conservative principles that retains the  
14 healthcare safety net for individuals without access to affordable  
15 health insurance, most of whom come from families with at least one  
16 breadwinner; and

17           WHEREAS, mental health centers and rural hospitals are  
18 particularly vulnerable to the increase in uncompensated care that  
19 will occur without a solution to the loss of DSRIP funding;

20           WHEREAS, CMS has asked for innovative proposals from state  
21 governments that increase budget flexibility, promote personal  
22 responsibility, and foster a cost-effective approach to treating  
23 mental illness and pre-existing conditions while increasing access  
24 to preventive and maternal health services; and

1           WHEREAS, while not a pre-requisite for a waiver-based  
2 solution to the loss of DSRIP funding, it is beneficial for the  
3 Legislature to demonstrate to HHSC and CMS its support for a  
4 solution that maximizes federal funding while not expanding state  
5 Medicaid enrollment or creating a new budget entitlement; now,  
6 therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, that the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas  
8 expresses its intent that HHSC negotiate with CMS to leverage  
9 enhanced federal funding and the CMS commitment to state  
10 flexibility to develop a non-entitlement coverage model based on  
11 the private market through a new waiver or a revision of the current  
12 waiver; and be it further

13           RESOLVED, that the Legislature expresses its intent that the  
14 new or revised waiver be renegotiated within a timeframe that  
15 minimizes or eliminates any disruption to the healthcare safety net  
16 caused by the loss of DSRIP funding.