

## LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 03/04/2010

The Committee on Health Regulation (Bennett) recommended the following:

## Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the resolving clause and insert:

That the creation of Section 28 of Article I of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE I

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

SECTION 28. Health care services.-

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- (a) To preserve the freedom of all residents of the state to provide for their own health care:
- (1) A law or rule may not compel, directly or indirectly, any person, employer, or health care provider to participate in any health care system.
- (2) A person or employer may pay directly for lawful health care services and may not be required to pay penalties or fines for paying directly for lawful health care services. A health care provider may accept direct payment for lawful health care services and may not be required to pay penalties or fines for accepting direct payment from a person or employer for lawful health care services.
- (b) Subject to reasonable and necessary rules that do not substantially limit a person's options, the purchase or sale of health insurance in private health care systems shall not be prohibited by law or rule.
  - (c) This section does not:
- (1) Affect which health care services a health care provider is required to perform or provide.
  - (2) Affect which health care services are permitted by law.
- (3) Prohibit care provided pursuant to general law relating to workers' compensation.
  - (4) Affect laws or rules in effect as of January 1, 2010.
- (5) Affect the terms or conditions of any health care system to the extent that those terms and conditions do not have the effect of punishing a person or employer for paying directly for lawful health care services or a health care provider for accepting direct payment from a person or employer for lawful health care services.

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- (d) For purposes of this section:
- (1) "Compel" includes the imposition of penalties or fines.
- (2) "Direct payment" or "pay directly" means payment for lawful health care services without a public or private third party, not including an employer, paying for any portion of the service.
- (3) "Health care system" means any public or private entity whose function or purpose is the management of, processing of, enrollment of individuals for, or payment, in full or in part, for health care services, health care data, or health care information for its participants.
- (4) "Lawful health care services" means any health-related service or treatment, to the extent that the service or treatment is permitted or not prohibited by law or regulation, which may be provided by persons or businesses otherwise permitted to offer such services.
- (5) "Penalties or fines" means any civil or criminal penalty or fine, tax, salary or wage withholding or surcharge, or any named fee with a similar effect established by law or rule by an agency established, created, or controlled by the government which is used to punish or discourage the exercise of rights protected under this section.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be placed on the ballot:

> CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ARTICLE I, SECTION 28

HEALTH CARE SERVICES.-Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to prohibit laws or rules from compelling any person, employer, or health care provider to participate in any



health care system; permit a person or employer to purchase lawful health care services directly from a health care provider; permit a health care provider to accept direct payment from a person or employer for lawful health care services; exempt persons, employers, and health care providers from penalties and fines for paying or accepting direct payment for lawful health care services; and permit the purchase or sale of health insurance in private health care systems. Specifies that the amendment does not affect which health care services a health care provider is required to perform or provide; affect which health care services are permitted by law; prohibit care provided pursuant to general law relating to workers' compensation; affect laws or rules in effect as of January 1, 2010; or affect the terms or conditions of any health care system to the extent that those terms and conditions do not have the effect of punishing a person or employer for paying directly for lawful health care services or a health care provider for accepting direct payment from a person or employer for lawful health care services.

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======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========= And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the resolving clause and insert:

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Senate Joint Resolution A joint resolution proposing the creation of Section 28 of Article I of the State Constitution, relating to health care services.