

1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
3 urging Congress to repeal the Patient Protection and
4 Affordable Care Act signed into law by President Obama
5 in 2010.

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7 WHEREAS, the health insurance mandate of the Patient
8 Protection and Affordable Care Act is a form of government
9 interference in the free market and an all-out assault on
10 personal liberties, and

11 WHEREAS, the mandate for individuals to purchase health
12 insurance exceeds the scope and authority of the United States
13 Congress, and

14 WHEREAS, as the United States economy continues to struggle
15 and the unemployment rate holds steadfast at alarming
16 percentages, the employer mandate to provide health insurance to
17 employees will raise the cost of hiring new employees and have
18 an adverse effect on the state of our economy, and

19 WHEREAS, regulations recently issued by the United States
20 Department of Health and Human Services, 77 Fed. Reg. 8,725
21 (Feb. 15, 2012), pursuant to authority in the Patient Protection
22 and Affordable Care Act require all health insurers to cover
23 certain services and products that violate the religious
24 freedoms of some health insurance consumers, and

25 WHEREAS, although the federal regulations exempt some
26 religious organizations, the regulations require all health
27 insurers, even those insuring religious organizations, to
28 provide coverage for services that are contrary to the religious

29 | beliefs and practices of certain faiths, and

30 | WHEREAS, the mandated services and products must be
31 | provided without deductibles or copayments such that religious
32 | employers, including hospitals, universities, and service
33 | organizations, must pay the full cost of implementation of the
34 | regulations that violate their religious freedoms, and

35 | WHEREAS, these overreaching regulations constitute an
36 | assault on the free exercise of religion and the rights of
37 | individuals and organizations afforded under the First Amendment
38 | to operate according to their consciences, and

39 | WHEREAS, passage of the Respect for Rights of Conscience
40 | Act of 2011 (H.R.1179/S.1467) would permit a health insurer to
41 | offer coverage without the specific services and products which
42 | are contrary to the religious beliefs of employers or individual
43 | purchasers, without penalty, and

44 | WHEREAS, passage of the Respect for Rights of Conscience
45 | Act of 2011 (H.R.1179/S.1467) would be unnecessary if the
46 | Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is repealed, and

47 | WHEREAS, repeal of the Patient Protection and Affordable
48 | Care Act would eliminate the authority for the federal
49 | regulations and restore the right to free exercise of religion,
50 | which is currently under assault by those regulations, NOW,
51 | THEREFORE,

52 |

53 | Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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55 That the Florida Legislature urges the United States
56 Congress to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care
57 Act signed into law by President Obama in 2010.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
59 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
60 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
61 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
62 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.