

House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,  
 urging Congress to repeal the health insurance tax  
 contained in sections 9010 and 10905 of the Patient  
 Protection and Affordable Care Act and section 1406 of  
 the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act.

WHEREAS, sections 9010 and 10905 of the Patient Protection  
 and Affordable Care Act (Pub. L. No. 111-148) and section 1406  
 of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act (Pub. L. No.  
 111-152) impose an unprecedented new tax on health insurance  
 that numerous policy experts agree will be passed on to  
 individuals, working families, small employers, and seniors,  
 contradicting a primary goal of health reform by making health  
 care more expensive, and

WHEREAS, the health insurance tax could cause health care  
 premiums for working families in Florida to rise by as much as  
 \$4,881 to \$7,767 on average over a ten-year period, and

WHEREAS, the health insurance tax will impact small  
 employers nationwide over the next decade, reducing future  
 private-sector jobs by 125,000, with 59 percent of those jobs  
 being eliminated from small businesses, and reducing potential  
 sales by at least \$18 billion, with 50 percent of that loss  
 being borne by small businesses, and

WHEREAS, Florida is estimated to be in the top five states  
 with the highest average aggregate impact on Medicare Advantage  
 beneficiaries between 2014 and 2023, with the ten-year impact  
 per person estimated at \$4,181, and

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29 WHEREAS, according to the recommended budget released by  
30 Governor Rick Scott, the cost of the health insurance tax on  
31 Medicaid is estimated at \$31.6 million, \$13.1 million of which  
32 will come from state funds due to an annual tax that will be  
33 placed on health insurance providers under the new law, based on  
34 preliminary estimates for the 2013-2014 year for Medicaid  
35 premiums, and

36 WHEREAS, higher premiums are a disincentive for everyone to  
37 obtain insurance coverage, particularly younger, healthier  
38 people, who are likely to drop their policies due to increased  
39 expense, further eroding the risk pool and making coverage even  
40 less affordable, NOW, THEREFORE,

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42 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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44 That the Congress of the United States is urged to enact  
45 legislation to repeal the health insurance tax contained in  
46 sections 9010 and 10905 of the Patient Protection and Affordable  
47 Care Act and section 1406 of the Health Care and Education  
48 Reconciliation Act to make health care more affordable for  
49 working families, individuals, and businesses.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
51 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
52 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the  
53 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of  
54 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.