

Joint Resolution 5

(House Joint Resolution 9)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

The Protection of the Federal Affordable Care Act

FOR the purpose of expressing the sharp disagreement of the General Assembly of Maryland with the repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act; urging the U.S. Congress to promptly protect certain provisions of the federal Affordable Care Act; urging the Governor of Maryland to join in urging the U.S. Congress to promptly protect certain provisions of the federal Affordable Care Act; and generally relating to the repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act.

WHEREAS, The repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act would eliminate health insurance coverage for approximately ~~20,000,000~~ 24,000,000 Americans; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Congress has presented no other option to provide health care services for the more than 430,000 Marylanders covered under the federal Affordable Care Act; and

WHEREAS, The repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act would allow insurance companies to deny coverage for Marylanders with preexisting conditions; and

WHEREAS, The repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act would no longer allow 41,000 Marylanders who are under the age of 26 years to be covered by their parents' health insurance; and

WHEREAS, The repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act would end preventive health coverage for more than 2,900,000 Maryland residents; and

WHEREAS, The repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act would reduce the access of Maryland residents to mental health care; and

WHEREAS, The repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act would increase out-of-pocket health-related expenses for Maryland seniors and threatens Medicare prescription benefits for 900,000 Maryland beneficiaries; and

WHEREAS, The repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act would allow insurance companies to discriminate against Maryland's women; and

WHEREAS, The defunding of family planning and women's health care programs threatens services for thousands of women in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act jeopardizes over \$7.7 billion in federal funding for Maryland health services over the next 5 years; and

WHEREAS, The repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act threatens \$2.3 billion in Medicare and Medicaid payments into the Maryland health care system; now, therefore,

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the General Assembly of Maryland sharply disagrees with the repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act and urges the U.S. Congress to promptly protect provisions of the law that ensure all Marylanders have access to affordable health insurance coverage, free from discriminatory rates and policies; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of Maryland urges the Governor of Maryland to join in urging the U.S. Congress to promptly protect provisions of the law that ensure all Marylanders have access to affordable health insurance coverage, free from discriminatory rates and policies; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland and the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Benjamin L. Cardin and Christopher Van Hollen, Jr., Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Andrew P. Harris, C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger III, John P. Sarbanes, Anthony G. Brown, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, John K. Delaney, Elijah E. Cummings, and Jamie Raskin, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

Signed by the President and the Speaker, May 25, 2017.