

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8

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2001 Regular Session
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By: **Senators Pinsky, Blount, Collins, Conway, Currie, Dorman, Dyson,
Exum, Forehand, Frosh, Green, Hoffman, Hogan, Hollinger, Hughes,
Kasemeyer, Kelley, Lawlah, McFadden, Middleton, Mitchell, Neall,
Ruben, Sfikas, Stone, Teitelbaum, and Van Hollen**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2001

Assigned to: Finance

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Health Care for All Marylanders**

3 FOR the purpose of resolving that the Maryland General Assembly is committed to
4 implementing public policy that will provide affordable, quality health care
5 coverage for all Marylanders; resolving that, the Maryland General Assembly
6 encourages a public-private partnership in developing policies to provide health
7 care coverage for all Marylanders; resolving that there is a Panel on
8 Comprehensive Health Care; providing for the membership, leadership,
9 meetings, staffing, reimbursement, and charges of the Panel; providing that the
10 work of the Panel shall be funded as provided for in the State budget; requiring
11 the Panel to submit a certain report by a certain date; providing for the
12 termination of the Panel; and resolving that a copy of this resolution be
13 forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to certain individuals.

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
15 Maryland General Assembly is committed to implementing public policy that will
16 provide affordable, quality health care coverage for all Marylanders; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Maryland General Assembly encourages a public-private
18 partnership in developing policies to provide health care coverage for all Marylanders;
19 and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That:

21 (a) there is a Panel on Comprehensive Health Care;

22 (b) the Panel consists of the following 17 members:

23 (1) three members of the Maryland Health Care Commission, appointed
24 by the Governor;

25 (2) three members of the Health Services Cost Review Commission,
26 appointed by the Governor;

- 1 (3) the Chair of the Maryland Health Care Foundation, or the Chair's
2 designee;
- 3 (4) the Insurance Commissioner, or the Commissioner's designee;
- 4 (5) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's
5 designee;
- 6 (6) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
7 of the Senate;
- 8 (7) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
9 the House;
- 10 (8) three consumer representatives, appointed by the Governor; and
- 11 (9) one licensed physician, appointed by the Governor;
- 12 (c) the Governor shall appoint the Chair of the Panel;
- 13 (d) the Panel shall meet:
- 14 (1) at least five times in total; and
- 15 (2) at least once in Western Maryland, the Eastern Shore, the Baltimore
16 metropolitan area, the Washington metropolitan area, and Southern Maryland;
- 17 (e) the Panel shall advertise its planned regional meetings with sufficient
18 time and in a manner to enable the attendance of citizens in each region;
- 19 (f) the Panel shall be staffed by the Maryland Health Care Commission;
- 20 (g) a member of the Panel:
- 21 (1) may not receive compensation; but
- 22 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
23 Travel Regulations, as provided for in the State budget;
- 24 (h) the Panel is charged to:
- 25 (1) receive testimony from the public on the likely effects of adopting
26 State policies to provide affordable, quality health care coverage for all Marylanders;
- 27 (2) receive testimony from the public, including groups and
28 organizations with interests in health care, on the best approaches to providing
29 affordable, quality health care coverage for all Marylanders; and
- 30 (3) prepare an objective summary of the testimony received by the Panel;

1 (i) the Panel shall report its findings to the Governor, and, subject to § 2-1246
2 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly by December 1, 2002;

3 (j) the work of the Panel shall be funded as provided for in the State budget;
4 and

5 (k) at the end of December 1, 2002, with no further action required by the
6 General Assembly, the Panel shall be dissolved; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
8 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
9 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
10 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.