

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 9

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By: **Delegates Nathan–Pulliam, Benson, Howard, Jones, Morhaim, Oaks, Stukes, and Tarrant**

Introduced and read first time: March 9, 2009

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Joint Principles of the Patient–Centered Medical Home**

3 FOR the purpose of expressing the support of the General Assembly of the Joint
4 Principles of the Patient–Centered Medical Home as a guideline for the State to
5 eliminate health disparities by improving the health of all its citizens.

6 WHEREAS, There are patient programs that provide a whole–person
7 orientation that includes care for all stages of life, including acute care, chronic care,
8 preventive services, and end–of–life care; and

9 WHEREAS, A patient–centered medical home must be Health Information
10 Exchange compliant, electronically integrated with Electronic Patient Health Records
11 and utilize practice–based disease management applications to facilitate and measure
12 quality of care at the point of care; and

13 WHEREAS, A patient in a patient–centered medical home actively participates
14 in health care decision making, and feedback from the patient is sought to ensure that
15 the expectations of the patient are being met; and

16 WHEREAS, Care in a patient–centered medical home is coordinated across all
17 elements of the health care system and the patient’s community to assure that the
18 patient receives the indicated care when and where the patient needs the care in a
19 culturally appropriate manner; and

20 WHEREAS, Multiple studies have demonstrated that when minorities have a
21 medical home, racial and ethnic disparities in terms of medical access disappear and
22 the costs of health care decrease; and

23 WHEREAS, The American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of
24 Family Physicians, the American College of Physicians, and the American Osteopathic
25 Association, representing more than 330,000 physicians across the country, have



1 developed Joint Principles of the Patient–Centered Medical Home that describe the
2 characteristics of the patient–centered medical home; and

3 WHEREAS, The National Committee for Quality Assurance is developing a
4 patient–centered medical home designation program for physician practices meeting
5 specified criteria; and

6 WHEREAS, The National Black Caucus of State Legislators passed a resolution
7 supporting the Joint Principles of the Patient–Centered Medical Home as a guideline
8 for states to eliminate health disparities by improving the health of all its citizens; and

9 WHEREAS, The Federal Tax Relief and Health Care Act calls for a 3–year
10 medical home demonstration project to be conducted in eight states with an estimated
11 start in 2009; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
13 General Assembly supports the Joint Principles of the Patient–Centered Medical
14 Home as a guideline for the State to eliminate health disparities by improving the
15 health of all its citizens; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
17 Legislative Services to the Honorable Martin O’Malley, Governor of Maryland; the
18 Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the
19 Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates.