

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Medicaid is a medical assistance program to low
3 income and uninsured individuals that is jointly administered
4 by the state and federal government; and

5 WHEREAS, The federal funding mechanism for Medicaid is
6 driven by a state's per capita income; and

7 WHEREAS, The federal funding mechanism for Medicaid has
8 not significantly changed since the program's creation in
9 1965; and

10 WHEREAS, The United States economy has drastically
11 changed since 1965; and

12 WHEREAS, Federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP)
13 rates vary from 50% to 76%; and

14 WHEREAS, Illinois is one of the only nine states to
15 receive the lowest FMAP rate of 50%; and

16 WHEREAS, Of the nine states receiving the lowest FMAP
17 rate, Illinois has the highest unemployment rate; and

18 WHEREAS, Of the nine states receiving the lowest FMAP
19 rate, Illinois is second only to New Hampshire in the
20 percentage of manufacturing jobs in the state and is
21 therefore more vulnerable to economic slowdowns; and

22 WHEREAS, Of the nine states receiving the lowest FMAP
23 rate, Illinois is the only state with a substantially higher
24 Medicaid population in relation to the percentage of federal
25 Medicaid funding received; and

26 WHEREAS, Illinois contributes more than \$1 billion
27 annually, an amount equal to almost 15% of its annual state
28 income tax collections, for the support of Medicaid programs
29 in other states; and

1 WHEREAS, Illinois only recovers 73 cents of every tax
2 dollar sent to the federal government; and

3 WHEREAS, Illinois would receive approximately \$80 million
4 from the federal government for every 1% increase in the FMAP
5 rate; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF
8 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING HEREIN, That we find Illinois to
9 be a unique state in the Medicaid system, contributing far
10 more than it receives and being far more susceptible to
11 economic slowdowns than other states; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That we ask and encourage the United States
13 Congress to consider these factors in devising a sufficient
14 Medicaid funding mechanism that does less harm to Illinois
15 taxpayers; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this Resolution be sent
17 to each member of the Illinois Congressional delegation,
18 United States Senator Peter Fitzgerald, United States Senator
19 Richard Durbin and United States Senate Majority Leader
20 William Frist, M.D.