



HR1225

LRB097 22930 MST 71735 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Department of Healthcare and Family Services
3 (HFS), as the Single State Medicaid Agency required by federal
4 law, currently oversees the Illinois Medicaid program; and

5 WHEREAS, Enrollment in the Illinois Medicaid program has
6 increased 60% during the past 5 years; and

7 WHEREAS, Illinois' Medicaid liability, growing far faster
8 than the rest of the Illinois budget, has nearly doubled in the
9 past 10 years; and

10 WHEREAS, Given the current fiscal climate, it is absolutely
11 critical that scarce State dollars be invested as wisely as
12 possible so as to produce optimal health outcomes for Illinois
13 citizens; and

14 WHEREAS, The State Auditor General has cited numerous
15 irregularities with the State's enrollment process, including
16 a significant number of chronically late redeterminations; and

17 WHEREAS, The Legislative Medicaid Advisory Committee,
18 through consensus, concluded the need for a vendor to assist
19 HFS with ensuring accurate Medicaid eligibility; and

1 WHEREAS, The Legislative Medicaid Advisory Committee
2 estimated annual cost savings of \$350 million associated with
3 establishing accurate eligibility measures and standards; and

4 WHEREAS, The Save Medicaid Access and Resources Together
5 (SMART) Act, Public Act 97-689, requires the Chief Procurement
6 Officer for General Services working in conjunction with HFS to
7 procure an eligibility verification vendor no later than 60
8 days following the effective date of the Act, and further, upon
9 selection of said vendor, to enter into a contract within 30
10 days; and

11 WHEREAS, Any delay in fully implementing the eligibility
12 redeterminations will serve to limit the cost savings
13 associated with this crucial reform; and

14 WHEREAS, The current implementation plan advanced by HFS
15 proposes a full implementation date of January 1, 2013 for
16 eligibility redeterminations; and

17 WHEREAS, The implementation of all the reforms contained in
18 the SMART Act is essential for the cost savings associated with
19 the SMART Act to be realized; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
21 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we urge the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to
2 ensure that the eligibility redeterminations process required
3 by the SMART Act be fully operational no later than October 1,
4 2012; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we request the Department of Healthcare and
6 Family Services to provide a monthly briefing to the members of
7 the Legislative Medicaid Advisory Committee regarding the
8 implementation status of all the SMART Act reforms and for
9 information provided to the Committee to also be posted online
10 by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services in a manner
11 accessible to the general public; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
13 presented to the Governor and the Director of the Department of
14 Healthcare and Family Services.