

1 HB372  
2 148268-5  
3 By Representatives Wren, Clouse and Barton  
4 RFD: Ways and Means General Fund  
5 First Read: 28-FEB-13

1                               ENGROSSED

2  
3  
4                               A BILL  
5                               TO BE ENTITLED  
6                               AN ACT  
7

8                         To abolish the Medicaid Joint Interim Committee and  
9                         the Permanent Joint Legislative Committee on Medicaid Policy  
10                        and create the Permanent Joint Medicaid Committee; provide for  
11                        the membership of the committee; provide the duties and  
12                        responsibilities of the committee; and create the Medicaid  
13                        Advisory Council and provide for the membership.

14                       BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

15                       Section 1. (a) Upon the effective date of this act,  
16                        the Medicaid Joint Interim Committee and the Permanent Joint  
17                        Legislative Committee on Medicaid Policy are hereby abolished  
18                        and the Permanent Joint Medicaid Committee is established as  
19                        provided herein.

20                       (b) The membership of the Committee shall consist of  
21                        the current chair and co-chair of the Permanent Joint  
22                        Legislative Committee on Medicaid Policy, the Chair of the  
23                        House Committee on Health, the Chair of the House Ways and  
24                        Means General Fund Committee, the Chair of the Senate  
25                        Committee on Health, the Chair of the Senate Committee on  
26                        Finance and Taxation and General Fund, three members of the  
27                        House appointed by the Speaker of the House of

1 Representatives, one member of the Senate appointed by the  
2 Lieutenant Governor, and two members of the Senate appointed  
3 by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The membership of  
4 this committee shall be inclusive and reflect the racial,  
5 gender, geographic, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the  
6 state.

7 (c) The initial meeting of the committee shall occur  
8 no later than 30 days following the effective date of this act  
9 at a date and time established by the Speaker of the House of  
10 Representatives, at which time the committee shall elect a  
11 chair and a vice-chair from its membership. Thereafter the  
12 meetings shall be at the call of the chair or by any majority  
13 of the members thereof.

14 (d) The committee shall make a continuous study of  
15 the Alabama Medicaid Program and make recommendations for  
16 legislation and initiatives that will create the necessary  
17 statutory, regulatory, and institutional changes to accomplish  
18 the overall goals and objectives of the Alabama Medicaid  
19 Agency in a manner that benefits the State and protects  
20 Medicaid recipients. The committee may also engage existing  
21 universities in the State of Alabama for support and research  
22 activities as they pertain to the Alabama Medicaid Agency and  
23 changes needed to the Medicaid State Plan.

24 Section 2. The designed objectives of the committee  
25 are to achieve the following goals:

26 (a) To keep the legislature informed about the  
27 expansion of existing programs and implementation of new

1 programs to meet the Alabama Medicaid Agency's current and  
2 future health care and funding needs by:

3 (1) Encouraging effective strategies to avoid  
4 decreases in eligibility due to funding shortages;

5 (2) Promoting existing programs and new programs to  
6 realize cost savings to the Agency;

7 (3) Promoting existing programs within the Agency  
8 that have proven to provide cost effective high quality care.

9 (b) To keep the legislature informed about the  
10 development of Regional Care Networks throughout the state by:

11 (1) Encouraging the implementation of programs based  
12 upon proven best practices of coordinated care programs which  
13 have been implemented in other states' Medicaid programs.

14 (2) Monitoring the Alabama Medicaid Agency's  
15 timeline and goals for a successful implementation of Regional  
16 Care Networks throughout the state. The committee shall  
17 monitor the implementation of the Regional Care Networks and  
18 report to the Legislature at least quarterly on the status of  
19 the implementation.

20 Annual expenses and compensation of the committee  
21 shall not exceed \$5,000.

22 Section 3. There is created the Medicaid Advisory  
23 ~~Commission~~ Council. The purpose of the ~~commission~~ council  
24 shall be to advise the Joint Medicaid Committee on Medicaid  
25 reform initiatives and the implementation of the Regional Care  
26 Networks. The ~~commission~~ council shall consist of the Chair of  
27 the Permanent Joint Medicaid Committee who shall serve as

1 chair, the vice-chair of the Permanent Joint Medicaid  
2 Committee, the State Health Officer, the Commissioner of the  
3 Alabama Medicaid Agency, the Commissioner of the Departments  
4 of Human Resources, Mental Health, and Senior Services or  
5 their designee, the Finance Director, or his or her designee,  
6 three physicians including two practicing physicians appointed  
7 by the ~~Alabama Medical Association~~ Medical Association of the  
8 State of Alabama, one practicing pediatrician appointed by the  
9 Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, one  
10 member representing the Pharmaceutical Research Manufacturer's  
11 Association, one member representing for-profit insurers  
12 appointed by the Governor, one member representing  
13 not-for-profit insurers appointed by the Governor, one member  
14 representing consumers appointed by the Governor, one member  
15 representing the business community appointed by the Governor,  
16 ~~one pharmacist appointed by the Alabama Pharmacy Association~~  
17 ~~and one registered pharmacist currently engaged in retail~~  
18 ~~pharmacy appointed by the Governor,~~ one pharmacist appointed  
19 by the Alabama Pharmacy Association with a background in  
20 pharmacy services to long-term care facilities and one  
21 pharmacist appointed by the Alabama Pharmacy Cooperative,  
22 Inc., one member representing the home health industry  
23 appointed by the Governor, three members appointed by the  
24 Alabama Nursing Home Association, three members appointed by  
25 the Alabama Hospital Association, ~~and~~ one member appointed by  
26 the Alabama Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, and one  
27 member appointed by the Alabama Optometric Association. The

1 membership of the ~~Commission~~ council shall be inclusive and  
2 reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban/rural and  
3 economic diversity of the state.

4           Section 4. This act shall become effective  
5 immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor, or  
6 its otherwise becoming law.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
  
16  
17  
18  
19

House of Representatives

Read for the first time and re-  
ferred to the House of Representa-  
tives committee on Ways and Means  
General Fund..... . . . . 28-FEB-13

Read for the second time and placed  
on the calendar with 1 substitute  
and 1 amendment..... . . . . 20-MAR-13

Read for the third time and passed  
as amended..... . . . . 23-APR-13

Yeas 99, Nays 0, Abstains 1

Jeff Woodard  
Clerk