

1 HJR363
2 140824-5
3 By Representatives Wren and Galliher
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 10-APR-12

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ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
CREATING THE PERMANENT JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
ON MEDICAID POLICY

WHEREAS, funding to the Alabama Medicaid Agency is paramount to Medicaid eligibles receiving services and to the State of Alabama's financial future; and

WHEREAS, reliable and affordable Medicaid services is of great importance to all sectors of Alabama's economy; and

WHEREAS, long-term sustainability of Medicaid services is becoming increasingly important to Alabama's population; and

WHEREAS, the future medical needs for Medicaid recipients of the State present opportunities to diversify the State's health care and provide new opportunities for coordination between health care related state agencies and programs; and

WHEREAS, the use of existing programs and development of new programs should be encouraged as ways of reducing costs to the Alabama Medicaid Agency and continuing to provide services to Medicaid eligibles; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that an integrated and comprehensive state policy on the Alabama

1 Medicaid Program is necessary to address the future health
2 care needs and costs to the State; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Permanent Joint
5 Legislative Committee on Medicaid Policy is created for the
6 purpose of developing recommendations to the Governor and the
7 Legislature to address the State's long-term and short-term
8 Medicaid challenges. The Committee shall be composed of
9 fourteen members as follows:

10 The Chair of the House Committee on Health; the
11 Chair of the House Ways and Means General Fund Committee; the
12 Chair of the Senate Committee on Health; the Chair of the
13 Senate Committee on Finance and Taxation General Fund; five
14 members of the House appointed by the Speaker of the House of
15 Representatives; two members of the Senate appointed by the
16 Lieutenant Governor; and three members of the Senate appointed
17 by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

18 The Committee shall make a continuous study of the
19 Alabama Medicaid Program and make recommendations for
20 legislation and initiatives that will create the necessary
21 statutory, regulatory, and institutional changes to accomplish
22 the overall goals and objectives of the Alabama Medicaid Plan
23 in a manner that benefits the State and protects Medicaid
24 recipients. The Committee shall seek direct involvement with
25 the State Health Officer in its study of the Alabama Medicaid

1 Program. The Committee may also engage existing universities
2 in the State of Alabama for support and research activities as
3 they pertain to the Alabama Medicaid Agency and the Alabama
4 Medicaid Plan.

5 The Alabama Medicaid Plan shall be designed to
6 achieve the following goals and objectives:

7 (a) The expansion of existing programs and
8 implementation of new programs to meet the Alabama Medicaid
9 Agency's current and future health care and funding needs,
10 through:

11 (1) Encouraging effective strategies to avoid
12 decreases in eligibility due to funding shortages;

13 (2) Promoting existing programs and new programs to
14 realize cost savings to the Agency;

15 (3) Expanding existing programs within the Agency
16 that have proven to provide cost effective high quality care.

17 (b) The development of coordinated care programs,
18 through:

19 (1) Identification and promotion of proven
20 coordinated care programs in other states' Medicaid programs;

21 (2) Incorporating coordinated care programs in the
22 Alabama Medicaid Agency.

23 The Alabama Medicaid Plan shall include for each
24 goal and objective:

1 (1) An identification of actions already in
2 progress;

3 (2) A prioritized list of recommended
4 non-legislative action items;

5 (3) Recommended legislative proposals; and

6 (4) An identification of areas on which further
7 evaluation or research is recommended.

8 The Committee shall submit its recommendations by
9 the fifth legislative day of the 2013 Regular Session and by
10 the fifth legislative day of each Regular Session thereafter.
11 The initial recommendations from the Committee shall address
12 cost saving strategies and effective coordinated care programs
13 for the Alabama Medicaid Agency. The Committee may make
14 additional recommendations and submit studies and reports to
15 the Legislature at any time.

16 The Chair of the Committee shall create and appoint
17 members to advisory committees, which shall include members of
18 the Committee, representatives from governmental agencies, and
19 members of the public with interest and expertise in the
20 objectives of the Committee. The Commissioner of the Alabama
21 Medicaid Agency, or his or her designee, shall be a member of
22 each advisory committee created. Each advisory committee shall
23 be chaired by a member of the advisory committee who shall be
24 elected by the members of the advisory committee, appointed by
25 the Chair of the Committee. The Alabama Medicaid Agency and

1 the Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency may make
2 recommendations to the Chair of the Committee for appointments
3 of members to each advisory committee.

4 The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
5 set the date of the first meeting of the Committee, at which a
6 chair and vice chair of the Committee shall be elected by the
7 members of the Committee. The Committee shall thereafter meet
8 at the call of the chair or any majority of the members
9 thereof; provided, that the Committee shall meet at least once
10 each four months. The Committee shall have a continuing
11 existence and may meet, act, and conduct its business at any
12 place within this state during the sessions of the Legislature
13 or any recess thereof, and in the interim period between
14 sessions. The Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House
15 of Representatives, and the advisory committees created herein
16 shall provide any assistance as may be necessary at the
17 Committee's request. Each member of the Committee shall be
18 entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation, his
19 or her per diem, and travel expenses for each day he or she
20 attends a meeting of the Committee, which shall be paid out of
21 any funds appropriated for the use of the Legislature, upon
22 warrants drawn by the State Comptroller, upon requisitions
23 signed by the Committee's chair; provided however, that
24 members shall not receive additional legislative compensation
25 or per diem when the Legislature is in session or if a member

1 is being paid any other payments on the same dates for
2 attendance on other state business. Annual expenses and
3 compensation of the Committee shall not exceed \$1,000. To the
4 extent possible, members of both the Legislative and the
5 advisory committees shall reflect the racial, ethnic, gender,
6 geographic, urban/rural and economic diversity of the State.

