



**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

*Introduced by: Fleming, Ziemke, Abbott, Andrade, Austin,
Bartlett, Bauer, Boy, Campbell, Clere, Davisson, DeLaney,
Errington, Hamilton, Harris, Hatcher, Jackson, Klinker,
Ledbetter, Manning, Moed, Moseley, Pfaff, Pierce, Porter,
Pryor, Schaibley, Shackelford, Smith V*

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION urging health insurers to donate
2 some of their increased net earnings to state and local health
3 departments to support coronavirus disease (COVID-19)
4 vaccination programs.

5 *Whereas, A decrease in elective health care during the*
6 *current pandemic has resulted in sharply increased net*
7 *earnings for health insurers, as exemplified by the net income*
8 *of UnitedHealth Group increasing from \$3.4 billion for the*
9 *second quarter of 2019 to \$6.7 billion for the second quarter of*
10 *2020 and the net income of Anthem Inc. increasing from \$1.1*
11 *billion for the second quarter of 2019 to \$2.3 billion for the*
12 *second quarter of 2020;*



1 *Whereas, America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), the*
2 *national organization of health insurers, states that its member*
3 *companies "are activating emergency plans to ensure that*
4 *Americans have access to the prevention, testing, and treatment*
5 *needed to handle the current situation" and AHIP's Internet*
6 *web site touts many voluntary actions taken by health insurers*
7 *to address the pandemic, including many financial*
8 *contributions;*

9 *Whereas, According to a December 14, 2020, article in the*
10 *Wall Street Journal, state officials say that the states are*
11 *billions of dollars short in the funding they will need to provide*
12 *COVID-19 vaccinations to everyone who will want to be*
13 *vaccinated;*

14 *Whereas, Although the federal government is providing the*
15 *vaccine, syringes, and needles, state and local health*
16 *departments face huge expenses in storing and properly*
17 *refrigerating the vaccine, hiring qualified medical workers to*
18 *administer the vaccine, providing personal protective*
19 *equipment for those administering and those receiving the*
20 *vaccine, and providing public information about vaccination*
21 *programs;*

22 *Whereas, The launch of state and local vaccination*
23 *programs is coming at a time when state and local government*
24 *finances are strained because of the economic downturn caused*
25 *by the pandemic;*

26 *Whereas, Supporting vaccination programs will ultimately*
27 *benefit health insurance companies, as insured individuals who*
28 *have been vaccinated can be expected to need less health care*
29 *in the future than if they had not been vaccinated;*

30 *Whereas, The particular needs of local health departments*
31 *will vary significantly, but all local health departments will*
32 *greatly need funding for their vaccination programs; and*

33 *Whereas, The nation's health insurance companies are*
34 *uniquely positioned to provide the financial support that is*
35 *badly needed for state and local vaccination programs:*



1 *Therefore,*

2 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*
3 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

4 SECTION 1. That health insurance companies doing
5 business in Indiana are strongly urged to use some of the
6 increased net earnings resulting from the decrease in elective
7 health care during the current pandemic to establish programs
8 under which grants will be made available to the state
9 department of health and local health departments to fund
10 programs for the vaccination of Hoosiers against the COVID-19
11 virus.

12 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House transmit
13 this resolution to the insurance commissioner of Indiana, and
14 that the insurance commissioner is urged to distribute this
15 resolution to the chief executive officers of all health insurance
16 companies doing business in Indiana.

