

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 53

BY REPRESENTATIVES CROMER, HUVAL, LORUSSO, SEABAUGH, AND  
THIBAUT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to repeal that portion of the federal health care reform legislation which imposes a health insurance tax.

WHEREAS, beginning in 2014, Section 9010 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148), as amended by Section 10905 of that Act and Section 1406 of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act (P.L. 111-152), will impose an unprecedented new tax on health insurance that numerous policy experts agree will be passed on to individuals, working families, employers, and seniors, contradicting a primary goal of health care reform by making health care more expensive; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Charles Boustany (R-LA) and Congressman Jim Matheson (D-UT) have already sponsored bipartisan legislation, H.R.763 of the First Session of the 113th Congress, in the United States House of Representatives, to repeal Section 9010 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act which imposes an annual fee on health insurance providers; and

WHEREAS, similar legislation, S. 603 of the First Session of the 113th Congress, has also been introduced in the United States Senate by Senator John Barrasso (R-WY); and

WHEREAS, it has been estimated that the health insurance tax will cause premiums on the individual market to rise an average of two thousand one hundred fifty dollars for individuals and an average of five thousand eighty dollars for families nationally over a ten-year period; and

WHEREAS, it has also been estimated that, in Louisiana over the next ten years, an individual will pay an average of two thousand one hundred twenty-eight dollars more for single coverage and an average of four thousand five hundred twelve dollars more for family coverage, a small group employer will pay an average of two thousand five hundred eighty-

nine dollars more for single coverage and an average of six thousand three hundred ninety-one dollars more for family coverage, and a large group employer will pay an average of two thousand eight hundred thirty dollars more for single coverage and an average of six thousand eight hundred thirty-six dollars more for family coverage; and

WHEREAS, it has been further estimated that a Medicare policyholder in Louisiana will pay on average four thousand one hundred eleven dollars more for coverage, all within the same time period; and

WHEREAS, estimates additionally indicate that the health insurance tax will also impact the national economy over the next ten years by reducing future private sector jobs by as much as one hundred twenty-five thousand, with approximately fifty-nine percent for small businesses, and reducing potential sales by at least eighteen billion dollars, with approximately fifty percent for small businesses; and

WHEREAS, higher premiums are a disincentive for everyone to obtain insurance coverage, particularly younger, healthier people, who are likely to drop their policies if they become too expensive, further eroding the risk pool and making coverage even less affordable.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to repeal Section 9010 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148), as amended by Section 10905 of that Act and Section 1406 of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act (P.L. 111-152), which imposes a health insurance tax, in order to make health care more affordable for working families, individuals, and businesses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE