

House Concurrent Resolution No. 21

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE KELLEY (127).

0423H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, the Federal Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy (MIEP) prohibits the
2 payment of federal Medicaid matching dollars for medical services provided to prison inmates;
3 and

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5 **WHEREAS**, under the MIEP, Medicaid will only cover the care an inmate receives in
6 an inpatient hospital or medical institution; and

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8 **WHEREAS**, incarcerated individuals have been ineligible for Medicaid since the
9 inception of the program in 1965; and

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11 **WHEREAS**, national prison populations have risen exponentially over the past several
12 decades, from approximately two hundred thousand incarcerated when Medicaid began to over
13 one million in county jails and state prisons currently; and

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15 **WHEREAS**, the MIEP places a tremendous financial burden on states, counties, and
16 local communities as hundreds of millions of dollars are spent annually for health care services
17 provided in jails and prisons; and

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19 **WHEREAS**, the health issues of inmates vary, with many needing treatment for mental
20 illness or other chronic diseases, including diabetes, hypertension, kidney failure, and cancer; and

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22 **WHEREAS**, the complexities of treating the health issues of aging inmates increase
23 health care costs; and

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25 **WHEREAS**, the repeal of or a federal waiver from the exclusionary provision of the
26 MIEP would enable states and counties to seek federal matching funds for Medicaid-covered
27 services; and

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29 **WHEREAS**, states that have expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act would
30 be reimbursed for a significant percentage of their spending on prison health care:

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32 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
33 Representatives of the One Hundred First General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
34 concurring therein, hereby urge the United States Congress to repeal the Medicaid Inmate
35 Exclusion Policy to allow prison inmates to be eligible for Medicaid coverage or allow states to
36 seek a waiver from the law; and

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38 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
39 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
40 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
41 and each member of Missouri's Congressional delegation.

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