

House Concurrent Resolution No. 82

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SOLON.

5298H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, "biosimilars" are generic biologic medicines approved by the United States
2 Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as highly similar to the original biologic medicine such
3 that they work in the same way and have no clinically meaningful difference in safety or efficacy;
4 and

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6 **WHEREAS**, biosimilars are approved by the FDA based on the agency's rigorous
7 standards for safety, potency, and purity; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, the FDA has approved twenty-four biosimilars indicated for a wide range
10 of conditions including autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis,
11 ankylosing spondylitis, Crohn's disease, plaque psoriasis, ulcerative colitis, and certain types of
12 colorectal, lung, breast, and other cancers; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, biosimilars cost nearly thirty percent less than the originator biologics, on
15 average, and are estimated to save the United States health care system as much as \$54 billion
16 over the next decade; and

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18 **WHEREAS**, recognizing the importance of biosimilars, the Missouri General Assembly
19 truly agreed to and finally passed Senate Bill No. 875 in 2016, which encourages the utilization
20 of interchangeable biological products throughout the state; and

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22 **WHEREAS**, unlike generic drugs, which account for ninety percent of prescriptions,
23 biosimilars make up only two percent of the United States market; and

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25 **WHEREAS**, increased use of biosimilars is estimated to save Medicaid programs
26 between \$417 million and \$1.2 billion annually, and commercial payers \$1.2 to \$3.3 billion
27 annually; and

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29 **WHEREAS**, anticompetitive behaviors, such as contracts that prevent biosimilars from
30 being included on formularies and misaligned incentives for providers, are inhibiting patient
31 access to, and system savings from, the use of biosimilars:

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33 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
34 Representatives of the One Hundredth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
35 concurring therein, hereby recognize that biosimilar medicines are a critical tool in preventing,
36 treating, and curing disease, as well as lowering spending on specialty medicine, and therefore
37 urge the Department of Social Services and the Office of Administration to conduct studies to
38 examine the potential cost savings of providing enhanced coverage for biosimilar drugs to
39 participants in MO HealthNet and to state employees receiving insurance benefits through the
40 Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan; and

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42 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
43 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the
44 Commissioner of the Office of Administration and for the director of the Department of Social
45 Services.

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