

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 3

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4 A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING
5 CONGRESS TO RETAIN PERMANENT REAUTHORIZATION OF THE INDIAN HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT
6 ACT WHEN MAKING CHANGES TO OR REPEALING THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE
7 ACT.

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9 WHEREAS, studies have shown that American Indians and Alaska Natives have a lower life expectancy
10 than other races and experience higher rates of many diseases, including diabetes and heart disease; and

11 WHEREAS, the United States entered into treaties and other agreements with Indian tribes that created
12 a trust responsibility to, among other things, provide for the health and well-being of Indian peoples in return for
13 land ceded by the tribes; and

14 WHEREAS, Congress passed the Snyder Act in 1921 to provide appropriations for health services to
15 tribes throughout the United States; and

16 WHEREAS, Congress in 1976 enacted the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, declaring "it is the policy
17 of this Nation, in fulfillment of its special responsibilities and legal obligation to the American Indian people, to
18 meet the national goal of providing the highest possible health status to Indians and to provide existing Indian
19 health services with all resources necessary to effect that policy"; and

20 WHEREAS, Congress periodically revised and reauthorized the Indian Health Care Improvement Act
21 before permanently reauthorizing the act as part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in 2010; and

22 WHEREAS, in the face of current uncertainty over congressional action relating to the Patient Protection
23 and Affordable Care Act, retaining that law's permanent reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement
24 Act is of significant importance to Montana's Indian tribes, tribal members, and the state of Montana.

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26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
27 MONTANA:

28 (1) That in making any revisions to OR REPEALING the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,
29 President Trump and the United States Congress be urged to retain OR CREATE the permanent reauthorization
30 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

