

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-seventh General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT  
10.13.09

RESOLUTION 1

LLS NO. R10-0295.01 Leah Bassity

Interim Committee Joint Resolution

Health Care Task Force

**SHORT TITLE:** "Support Single-payer Health Care In CO"

COMMITTEE JOINT RESOLUTION

101 **CONCERNING SUPPORT FOR A SINGLE-PAYER HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IN**  
102 **COLORADO.**

1 WHEREAS, Every Coloradan needs health care from conception  
2 to death; and

3 WHEREAS, The current method of funding health care is  
4 fragmented, costly, bureaucratic, and administratively wasteful; and

5 WHEREAS, Funding health care through a risk-based system is  
6 insufficient to ensure health care for all Coloradans while containing  
7 costs; and

8 WHEREAS, Previous incremental reforms have failed to expand  
9 care and control costs; and

10 WHEREAS, Current limits on access to medical insurance lead to  
11 rationing of health care; and

12 WHEREAS, An economy whose workers depend on

*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 employer-based health care, and whose employers are saddled with health  
2 care expenditures, is less competitive and dynamic than an economy that  
3 is free of such constraints; and

4 WHEREAS, High copayments and insurance policy limitations  
5 further limit access to health care and force millions of hardworking,  
6 responsible Americans into medical bankruptcy; and

7 WHEREAS, Today's workers are unlikely to remain with the same  
8 employer for long periods of time and, as a result, repeatedly lose their  
9 health insurance; and

10 WHEREAS, A single-payer system is the only health plan  
11 submitted to the Lewin Group for analysis by the Blue Ribbon  
12 Commission for Health Care Reform established pursuant to Senate Bill  
13 06-208 that would provide comprehensive health care financing while  
14 decreasing annual health spending in Colorado; and

15 WHEREAS, A single-payer system would cover all Coloradans for  
16 all medically necessary services, including doctor, hospital, rehabilitative,  
17 long-term, mental health, and home care services; dental, vision,  
18 prescription drug, and medical supply costs; and preventive and public  
19 health measures; and

20 WHEREAS, A single-payer system would unify the system of  
21 payments to providers, allow health outcomes and quality data to be  
22 centrally collected, and create incentives for life-long wellness; and

23 WHEREAS, A single-payer system would increase choice and  
24 competition by freeing patients to choose any health care provider, and  
25 would enable health care providers to provide the best medical care  
26 possible; and

27 WHEREAS, National health care reform may facilitate state  
28 implementation of innovative health care delivery systems; now,  
29 therefore,

30 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-seventh General Assembly*  
31 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

32 That we, the members of the General Assembly, hereby:

33 (1) Find, determine, and declare that a single-payer health care  
34 system would streamline Colorado's health care system and save  
35 Colorado taxpayers approximately \$1.4 billion in health care costs  
36 annually;

37 (2) Find that a single-payer health care system would improve the  
38 delivery of services, enhance health outcomes, expand patient choice,  
39 broaden access to all medically necessary services, ensure the  
40 affordability of copayments, and create a focus on wellness and  
41 preventive care;

42 (3) Endorse a single-payer health care system in concept, and

1 support efforts to transition Colorado toward the more efficient, cohesive  
2 health care system represented by a single-payer approach; and

3 (4) Respectfully urge the United States Congress to enact health  
4 reform legislation that will allow Colorado to provide a universal,  
5 comprehensive single-payer system of high quality health insurance.

6 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
7 to Barack Obama, President of the United States, and the members of the  
8 Colorado congressional delegation.