

1 HJR363
2 140824-4
3 By Representatives Wren and Galliher
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 10-APR-12

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2 ENGROSSED

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4 CREATING THE PERMANENT JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
5 ON MEDICAID POLICY

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7 WHEREAS, funding to the Alabama Medicaid Agency is
8 paramount to Medicaid eligibles receiving services and to the
9 State of Alabama's financial future; and

10 WHEREAS, reliable and affordable Medicaid services
11 is of great importance to all sectors of Alabama's economy;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, long-term sustainability of Medicaid
14 services is becoming increasingly important to Alabama's
15 population; and

16 WHEREAS, the future medical needs for Medicaid
17 recipients of the State present opportunities to diversify the
18 State's health care and provide new opportunities for
19 coordination between health care related state agencies and
20 programs; and

21 WHEREAS, the use of existing programs and
22 development of new programs should be encouraged as ways of
23 reducing costs to the Alabama Medicaid Agency and continuing
24 to provide services to Medicaid eligibles; and

25 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that an
26 integrated and comprehensive state policy on the Alabama

1 Medicaid Program is necessary to address the future health
2 care needs and costs to the State; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Permanent Joint
5 Legislative Committee on Medicaid Policy is created for the
6 purpose of developing recommendations to the Governor and the
7 Legislature to address the State's long-term and short-term
8 Medicaid challenges. The Committee shall be composed of
9 fourteen members as follows:

10 The Chair of the House Committee on Health; the
11 Chair of the House Ways and Means General Fund Committee; the
12 Chair of the Senate Committee on Health; the Chair of the
13 Senate Committee on Finance and Taxation General Fund; five
14 members of the House appointed by the Speaker of the House of
15 Representatives; two members of the Senate appointed by the
16 Lieutenant Governor; and three members of the Senate appointed
17 by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

18 The Committee shall make a continuous study of the
19 Alabama Medicaid Program and make recommendations for
20 legislation and initiatives that will create the necessary
21 statutory, regulatory, and institutional changes to accomplish
22 the overall goals and objectives of the Alabama Medicaid Plan
23 in a manner that benefits the State and protects Medicaid
24 recipients. The Committee shall seek direct involvement with
25 the State Health Officer in its study of the Alabama Medicaid
26 Program. The Committee may also engage existing universities
27 in the State of Alabama for support and research activities as

1 they pertain to the Alabama Medicaid Agency and the Alabama
2 Medicaid Plan.

3 The Alabama Medicaid Plan shall be designed to
4 achieve the following goals and objectives:

5 (a) The expansion of existing programs and
6 implementation of new programs to meet the Alabama Medicaid
7 Agency's current and future health care and funding needs,
8 through:

9 (1) Encouraging effective strategies to avoid
10 decreases in eligibility due to funding shortages;

11 (2) Promoting existing programs and new programs to
12 realize cost savings to the Agency;

13 (3) Expanding existing programs within the Agency
14 that have proven to provide cost effective high quality care.

15 (b) The development of coordinated care programs,
16 through:

17 (1) Identification and promotion of proven
18 coordinated care programs in other states' Medicaid programs;

19 (2) Incorporating coordinated care programs in the
20 Alabama Medicaid Agency.

21 The Alabama Medicaid Plan shall include for each
22 goal and objective:

23 (1) An identification of actions already in
24 progress;

25 (2) A prioritized list of recommended
26 non-legislative action items;

27 (3) Recommended legislative proposals; and

1 (4) An identification of areas on which further
2 evaluation or research is recommended.

3 The Committee shall submit its recommendations by
4 the fifth legislative day of the 2013 Regular Session and by
5 the fifth legislative day of each Regular Session thereafter.
6 The initial recommendations from the Committee shall address
7 cost saving strategies and effective coordinated care programs
8 for the Alabama Medicaid Agency. The Committee may make
9 additional recommendations and submit studies and reports to
10 the Legislature at any time.

11 The Chair of the Committee shall create and appoint
12 members to advisory committees, which shall include members of
13 the Committee, representatives from governmental agencies, and
14 members of the public with interest and expertise in the
15 objectives of the Committee. The Commissioner of the Alabama
16 Medicaid Agency, or his or her designee, shall be a member of
17 each advisory committee created. Each advisory committee shall
18 be chaired by a member of the advisory committee who shall be
19 elected by the members of the advisory committee, appointed by
20 the Chair of the Committee. The Alabama Medicaid Agency and
21 the Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency may make
22 recommendations to the Chair of the Committee for appointments
23 of members to each advisory committee.

24 The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
25 set the date of the first meeting of the Committee, at which a
26 chair and vice chair of the Committee shall be elected by the
27 members of the Committee. The Committee shall thereafter meet

1 at the call of the chair or any majority of the members
2 thereof; provided, that the Committee shall meet at least once
3 each four months. The Committee shall have a continuing
4 existence and may meet, act, and conduct its business at any
5 place within this state during the sessions of the Legislature
6 or any recess thereof, and in the interim period between
7 sessions. The Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House
8 of Representatives, and the advisory committees created herein
9 shall provide any assistance as may be necessary at the
10 Committee's request. Each member of the Committee shall be
11 entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation, his
12 or her per diem, and travel expenses for each day he or she
13 attends a meeting of the Committee, which shall be paid out of
14 any funds appropriated for the use of the Legislature, upon
15 warrants drawn by the State Comptroller, upon requisitions
16 signed by the Committee's chair; provided however, that
17 members shall not receive additional legislative compensation
18 or per diem when the Legislature is in session or if a member
19 is being paid any other payments on the same dates for
20 attendance on other state business. Annual expenses and
21 compensation of the Committee shall not exceed \$1,000. To the
22 extent possible, members of both the Legislative and the
23 advisory committees shall reflect the racial, ethnic, gender,
24 geographic, urban/rural and economic diversity of the State.

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House of Representatives

Introduced and referred to the
House of Representatives committee
on Rules..... 10-APR-12

Reported from Rules with 1 substi-
tute and..... 12-APR-12

Read for the third time and adopted
as amended..... 12-APR-12

Adopted by Voice Vote

Greg Pappas
Clerk