

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31—ASSEMBLYMEN OHRENSCHALL,
MANENDO, GIBBONS, BEERS, PRICE, COLLINS, PARKS, WILLIAMS,
GIUNCHIGLIANI, ARBERRY, BACHE AND FREEMAN

MARCH 15, 1999

JOINT SPONSOR: SENATOR SHAFFER

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, and Ethics

SUMMARY—Directs Legislative Commission to conduct interim study of feasibility and desirability of statewide health insurance program for residents who are not otherwise able to secure health insurance. (BDR R-1508)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Directing the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study of the feasibility and desirability of a statewide health insurance program for residents who are not otherwise able to secure health insurance.

- 1 WHEREAS, According to the Bureau of the Census of the United States
- 2 Department of Commerce, in 1996, 255,000 residents of the State of
- 3 Nevada, which equaled 15.6 percent of the population of this state, were
- 4 not covered by health insurance; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Forty-one states provide some form of health insurance
- 6 specifically for residents who are not otherwise able to secure health
- 7 insurance; and
- 8 WHEREAS, High-risk insurance may alleviate some of the financial
- 9 burden placed on families as a result of subsequent medical expenses; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Although a limited number of high-risk individuals may be
- 11 eligible for medical coverage pursuant to the provisions of the federal
- 12 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, the State of
- 13 Nevada does not guarantee that all high-risk individuals receive health
- 14 insurance; and
- 15 WHEREAS, It is in the best interests of the residents of the State of
- 16 Nevada to explore the feasibility of a comprehensive statewide health

1 insurance program designed to assist those residents who are not otherwise
2 able to secure health insurance, to obtain a greater understanding of the
3 issues and problems of improving health care and to establish a unified
4 effort to improve access to health care in this state; now, therefore, be it
5 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE
6 CONCURRING, That the Legislative Commission is hereby directed to
7 conduct an interim study concerning the desirability and feasibility of a
8 comprehensive statewide health insurance program to assist Nevadans who
9 cannot obtain health insurance coverage or who have suffered a
10 catastrophic illness; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the study must include, without limitation, an
12 assessment of:

13 1. The estimated need for a comprehensive statewide health insurance
14 program;

15 2. The number of residents in this state who would benefit from such a
16 program and the logistics of making such a program available to these
17 persons;

18 3. The affordability of such a program, including exploring alternative
19 sources of funding;

20 4. The comprehensive health insurance policies and plans of various
21 other states, including any studies that have been performed regarding
22 these types of programs and the success rates of such programs;

23 5. Strategies and systems for increasing the availability and
24 affordability of such programs to residents of this state who are otherwise
25 not able to secure health insurance;

26 6. The availability of health insurance coverage available in this state
27 or from the Federal Government which is not being utilized; and

28 7. Any other issues that the committee wishes to study relating to the
29 feasibility and logistics of implementing a statewide health insurance
30 program for the residents of this state who are not otherwise able to secure
31 health insurance or have suffered catastrophic illnesses; and be it further

32 RESOLVED, That any recommended legislation proposed by the
33 committee must be approved by a majority of the members of the
34 Assembly and a majority of the members of the Senate appointed to the
35 committee; and be it further

36 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission shall submit a report of its
37 findings and any recommendations for legislation to the 71st session of the
38 Nevada Legislature.