

Senate Joint Resolution No. 8—Committee
on Health and Human Services

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging Congress not to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or its most important provisions.

WHEREAS, In 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148), commonly known as the Affordable Care Act, was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Barack Obama; and

WHEREAS, The Affordable Care Act established a comprehensive series of health insurance reforms designed to make universal, affordable health insurance coverage available to all Americans, while also controlling rising health care costs and ending certain common industry practices that limited access to health insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, The Affordable Care Act expanded access to health insurance coverage by creating health insurance marketplaces, allowing children to stay on a parent's health insurance plan until the age of 26 years, expanding Medicaid and establishing a system of tax credits to assist consumers in purchasing individual health insurance coverage and provide incentives to businesses to encourage them to provide health insurance coverage to employees; and

WHEREAS, The Affordable Care Act prohibits an insurer from denying health insurance coverage to a person on the basis of a preexisting condition, prohibits an insurer from rescinding coverage, eliminates lifetime and annual limits on coverage, requires all marketplace plans to provide coverage for 10 essential health benefits, including preventative care, establishes a mechanism for consumers to appeal determinations regarding coverage and establishes a system to assist consumers in navigating the health insurance marketplace; and

WHEREAS, The Affordable Care Act additionally requires health insurance coverage for annual well-woman visits, screenings for breast cancer and cervical cancer, screening for gestational diabetes, all approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures and patient education and counseling services often provided by nonprofit organizations such as Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, In particular, since Nevada chose to participate in the expansion of Medicaid in 2011, approximately 181,000 new



enrollees obtained health insurance coverage in Nevada through the Medicaid expansion alone; and

WHEREAS, It has been estimated that 370,000 adults in this State stand to lose health insurance coverage if the Affordable Care Act is repealed; and

WHEREAS, It has been estimated that Nevada could lose an estimated \$1 billion in Medicaid funding if the Affordable Care Act is repealed; and

WHEREAS, The Affordable Care Act provides many other benefits and protections to ensure access to health care by all; and

WHEREAS, Congressional leaders have proposed repealing the Affordable Care Act during the 115th Congress without a plan to replace the Affordable Care Act which adequately protects the thousands of Nevadans who benefit from or may not have access to health insurance coverage without the Act; and

WHEREAS, The Congressional Budget Office reported that the congressional plan to repeal the Affordable Care Act will cost 24 million Americans their health insurance coverage by 2026; and

WHEREAS, Repealing the Affordable Care Act without establishing mechanisms to preserve the significant improvements and protections afforded by the law, and without adequately providing for those who stand to lose their health insurance coverage upon repeal, will have significant detrimental effects on individuals and their families, on the health care industry in general and on the overall economic well-being of both Nevada and the nation as a whole; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby urge Congress to fully preserve the critical benefits afforded by the Affordable Care Act which many Nevadans have come to rely upon; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Congress should maintain federal funding for organizations, such as Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc., that provide essential family planning, cancer screenings and other preventative health services to Nevadans; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Congress should not repeal the Affordable Care Act in a manner that would deny access to these essential programs and services to future generations of Nevadans; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the Vice President of the United States, as the presiding officer of the United States Senate, the



Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further
RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.

