

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 93

Reps. Vaupel, Liberati, Frederick, Marino, Wakeman, Allor, Calley, Chirkun, Crawford, Garza, Gay-Dagnogo, Haadsma, Jones and Lasinski offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to urge the Congress of the United States to
2 allow jail and prison inmates to be eligible for Medicaid coverage.

3 Whereas, The Federal Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy (MIEP)
4 prohibits the payment of federal Medicaid matching dollars for
5 medical services provided to prison inmates. Medicaid will only
6 cover the care an inmate receives in an inpatient hospital or
7 medical institution; and

8 Whereas, Incarcerated individuals have been ineligible for
9 Medicaid since the inception of the program in 1965. National
10 prison populations have risen exponentially over the past several
11 decades from approximately 200,000 when Medicaid began to over a



1 million in county jails and state prisons currently; and

2 Whereas, The MIEP places a tremendous financial burden on
3 states, counties, and local communities as hundreds of millions of
4 dollars are spent annually for health care services provided in
5 jails and prisons. Inmate health issues run the gamut from mental
6 illness to chronic diseases, including diabetes, hypertension,
7 kidney failure, and cancer. Furthermore, the health complexities of
8 aging inmates increase health care costs; and

9 Whereas, The repeal of or a federal waiver from the
10 exclusionary provision of MIEP would enable states and counties to
11 seek federal matching funds for Medicaid-covered services.
12 Furthermore, states that have expanded Medicaid under the
13 Affordable Care Act would be reimbursed for at least 90 percent of
14 their spending on prison health care; now, therefore, be it

15 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the
16 Congress of the United States to repeal the Medicaid Inmate
17 Exclusion Policy to allow prison inmates to be eligible for
18 Medicaid coverage or allow states to seek a waiver from the law;
19 and be it further

20 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
21 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United
22 States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan
23 congressional delegation.

