

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 93

Reps. Vaupel, Liberati, Frederick, Marino and Wakeman 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  
12 million in county jails and state prisons currently; and



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

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

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

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

