
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4038

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By Representatives Franklin, Paris, Day, Braddock, Moyer, Morris, Cantwell, Prentice, Edmondson, Casada, Ogden, Roland, G. Cole, Haugen, Zellinsky, Heavey, J. Kohl, Rust, Ebersole, Hine, Mitchell, O'Brien, Spanel, Betrozoff and Jones

Read first time 02/07/92. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Health care expenditures in the United States are
9 estimated to reach \$738 billion in 1991 and \$817 billion in 1992, an
10 increase of 11%; and

11 WHEREAS, The rate of health care expenditure increases will average
12 12% to 13% over the next five years, according to the United States
13 Commerce Department, and shows no likelihood of decreasing in future
14 years; and

15 WHEREAS, These health care costs have grown at a rate in excess of
16 the rate of growth in personal and business income and general

1 government revenues, threatening the ability of businesses,
2 individuals, and the federal and state governments to maintain their
3 current commitments to purchasing health services or providing health
4 insurance coverage; and

5 WHEREAS, Rapidly increasing health care expenditures severely limit
6 the federal and state governments' ability to adequately fund other
7 important areas of government spending, such as common school
8 education, higher education, and infrastructure; and

9 WHEREAS, An unacceptably high number of Americans have no health
10 insurance or inadequate health insurance, putting them at risk of
11 serious illness and financial catastrophe; and

12 WHEREAS, The State of Washington has reached consensus on several
13 significant steps to address problems in our health care system,
14 including development of the Washington Basic Health Plan and the First
15 Steps and Second Steps maternal and child health programs and
16 establishment of the Washington Health Care Cost Control and Access
17 Commission, a group representing varied health care interests, which
18 has developed consensus recommendations on health care reform for the
19 Governor and the legislature of the State of Washington;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United
21 States Congress and the United States President reach a consensus on
22 the issue of health care reform that builds upon the principles of
23 containing health care costs and providing universal access to health
24 care services, without compromising the strengths of the United States
25 health care system related to quality of care.

26 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
27 transmitted to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United
28 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
29 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
30 Washington.