
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8011

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Franklin, Erwin, Skratek, Nelson, Prentice, McAuliffe, Wojahn, M. Rasmussen, Fraser, Pelz, Quigley, Moyer, Deccio and Oke

Read first time 02/04/93. Referred to Committee on Health & Human Services.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BILL CLINTON, 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
17 government revenues, threatening the ability of businesses,
18 individuals, and the federal and state governments to maintain their
19 current commitments to purchasing health services or providing health
20 insurance coverage; and

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

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

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

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

22 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
23 transmitted to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United
24 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
25 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
26 Washington.

--- END ---