



HR0807

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is committed to ensuring
3 its residents have affordable and accessible health care,
4 regardless of their income, ethnicity, or zip code; and

5 WHEREAS, We have continued to take important steps in this
6 State to reaffirm our commitment to ensuring access to quality
7 health care for patients and healthcare consumers in Illinois,
8 despite attempts from Republican members to undermine these
9 efforts; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2021, the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus
11 presented and passed the Health Equity Pillar, which included
12 important provisions like implicit bias and racial training,
13 expansion of sick leave, increased access to primary care
14 physicians and federal qualified health centers, and state
15 health assessment and improvement plan additions; and

16 WHEREAS, Medicaid funding was expanded under the Health
17 Equity Pillar and other key legislation to include the
18 coverage of, among other things, home-visiting and doulas,
19 community health workers, hospital psychiatric services,
20 veteran support specialists, noncitizen post-kidney transplant
21 services, certified community behavioral health clinics,
22 overdose patient observation treatment, and undocumented

1 health coverage; and

2 WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Leader Greg Harris,
3 Illinois recently passed HB 1745 and, by doing so, became the
4 first state to pass legislation to ensure patients have the
5 ability to plan and predict their prescription drug costs; and

6 WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Leader Mary Flowers,
7 Illinois is leading the way for biomarker testing by becoming
8 the first state in the country to pass biomarker testing
9 coverage in HB 1779; the passage of HB 1779 ensures that over
10 three million Illinoisans have access to comprehensive
11 biomarker testing through Medicaid and state regulated
12 insurance; and

13 WHEREAS, When former Governor Bruce Rauner slashed funding
14 for lifesaving breast cancer screenings, senior care, HIV/AIDS
15 services, and more, Democrats and a small number of
16 independent-minded Republicans stood up to Rauner's extreme
17 cuts and passed a budget over Rauner's veto; Illinois has
18 continued to rebuild its critical infrastructure after the
19 damage Rauner caused by passing a comprehensive budget,
20 including \$24 million to the Illinois Breast and Cervical
21 Cancer Program, \$138 million for HIV/AIDS services and
22 prevention, \$30 million to maternal and child health programs,
23 and over \$980 million to the Community Care Program, which,

1 among other things, includes services to keep seniors in their
2 homes instead of in a long-term care setting; and

3 WHEREAS, In order to improve the health outcomes of
4 residents in the State of Illinois, we continue to recognize
5 that it is essential to dramatically reform the State's health
6 and human service system and remain committed to introducing
7 more measures to support this transformation; and

8 WHEREAS, While partisan idealogues across the country
9 tried to block the implementation of the Affordable Care Act
10 and the federal expansion of Medicaid, Illinois acted
11 decisively in expanding access to care; and

12 WHEREAS, While former President Donald Trump disgracefully
13 tried to strip health care access from millions, Illinois
14 moved in a fundamentally better direction by implementing
15 state-level protections for care for individuals with
16 pre-existing conditions, regardless of what extremists in
17 Washington do; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
19 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
20 we once again strongly declare our commitment to ensuring
21 access to quality health care for Illinois residents; and be
22 it further

1 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Congressional
2 Delegation to support federal legislation building on the
3 Affordable Care Act to ensure all people have access to health
4 care, regardless of income, race, or location; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That we oppose extreme efforts to strip away
7 health care from people with pre-existing conditions,
8 dismantle regulation, and allow big insurance companies to pad
9 their profits at the expense of patients; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
11 delivered to the Governor, all Illinois constitutional
12 officers, and all members of the Illinois Congressional
13 Delegation in order to bring further awareness to the
14 importance of access to affordable quality health care in the
15 State of Illinois and to be a model state for the rest of the
16 country.