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1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 450

2 AMENDMENT NO. ____. Amend House Resolution 450 by replacing

3 everything after the title with the following:

4 "WHEREAS, In response to increasing prescription drug

5 costs, many employer health plans and employer prescription

drug plans have increased enrollee cost-sharing amounts,

7 instituted coinsurance, and created specialty tiers; and

8 WHEREAS, The increase in price of specialty prescription

drugs of 19.6% in 2010 versus a 1.4% increase for traditional

10 drugs and the expected increase of specialty drugs of an

11 additional 27.5% by 2013 creates significant financial

12 pressures on employer health plans, employer prescription drug

plans, and individuals who purchase an individual health

insurance policy; and

WHEREAS, The National Conference of State Legislatures

- 1 reports that between the years 2000 and 2009, copayments for
- 2 insured workers have increased for specialty-tier drugs; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Medicare has used specialty tiers since 2006 to
- 4 help control prescription drug costs on behalf of taxpayers;
- 5 and
- 6 WHEREAS, Nationally 11% of employers utilize a coinsurance
- 7 or percentage of the cost of fourth-tier or specialty-tier
- 8 prescription medications to help control the cost of their
- 9 prescription drug benefit plans; and
- WHEREAS, Fourth-tier or specialty-tier medications often 10
- include medications for chronic diseases, including certain 11
- 12 types of cancer, hemophilia, multiple sclerosis, myositis,
- 13 neuropathy, arthritis, human immunodeficiency virus, and other
- diseases and disorders; and 14
- 15 WHEREAS, Specialty-tier benefits and step therapy are
- 16 strategies offered by employer health plans and employer
- prescription drug plans to incentivize plan participants to 17
- 18 utilize lower cost generics or preferred brand alternatives;
- 19 and
- 20 WHEREAS, Coinsurance, cost-sharing, and specialty-tier
- 21 pricing place significant and onerous financial burdens upon

- 1 insured individuals with chronic health care issues requiring
- 2 prescription medication, in many cases leading to decreased
- 3 adherence or failure to take medications as prescribed,
- 4 resulting in acute incidents and negative health outcomes;
- 5 therefore, be it
- 6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
- 7 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 8 the Department of Insurance is requested to study the cost of
- 9 specialty drugs and the availability and accessibility of
- 10 manufacturer discounts and assistance plans to individuals and
- 11 employers; and be it further
- 12 RESOLVED, That the study shall (1) determine the impacts
- of cost sharing, coinsurance, and specialty-tier pricing for
- 14 prescription medications on individuals and employer health
- 15 plans; (2) determine the percentage of small employers in
- 16 Illinois providing prescription drug benefits and the impact of
- 17 the high cost of specialty drugs on the ability of small
- 18 employers and individuals to continue such prescription drug
- benefits; (3) identify and evaluate options for reducing the
- 20 cost of specialty drugs on individuals and small employers; and
- 21 be it further
- 22 RESOLVED, That the Department of Insurance shall report to
- 23 the General Assembly on the first day of the regular session,

- 1 2012, on its findings, conclusions, and recommendations
- together with drafts of legislation necessary to effectuate its 2
- 3 recommendations; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be 4
- 5 presented to the Director of Insurance.".