

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to not make drastic  
2 cuts to the Medicare program for purposes of expanding  
3 Medicaid to working-age able-bodied, childless adults under  
4 the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

5 WHEREAS, In Pennsylvania there are 2,438,595 residents who  
6 relied on the Medicare program in 2013, as noted by the Centers  
7 for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS); and

8 WHEREAS, The cuts made by the Patient Protection and  
9 Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148, 124 Stat. 119), commonly  
10 called the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are degrading the value and  
11 quality of care for Pennsylvania residents who rely on Medicare;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The ACA reduces payments in the Medicare program by  
14 \$716 billion over the next ten years on hospital and skilled  
15 nursing services, home health visits and hospice services; and

16 WHEREAS, CMS's actuary has projected that 40% of hospitals  
17 will be unprofitable by 2050 due to the ACA Medicare cuts; and

18 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's older residents on Medicare are set

1 to experience an average cut in benefits of \$3,637 by 2017 due  
2 to the ACA; and

3 WHEREAS, There are over 14 million enrollees on the Medicare  
4 Advantage plans in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, in  
6 Pennsylvania, 939,496 of our older residents utilize these  
7 plans; and

8 WHEREAS, The ACA's cuts to Medicare on the national level  
9 will force five to seven million seniors off of their Medicare  
10 Advantage plans over the next six years; and

11 WHEREAS, In Pennsylvania, over 60% of seniors will be forced  
12 off their current Medicare Advantage plan by 2017 due to the  
13 ACA; and

14 WHEREAS, Reductions to Medicare Advantage plans will result  
15 in seniors losing extra benefits available in the program, such  
16 as preventive dental care, hearing coverage, limits on out-of-  
17 pocket maximums, podiatry coverage, transportation benefits,  
18 chiropractic services, travel benefits and loss of an integrated  
19 drug benefit; and

20 WHEREAS, The ACA's cuts to Medicare Advantage plans will  
21 disproportionately impact African-Americans that are 10% more  
22 likely to be enrolled when compared to traditional Medicare  
23 enrollees; and

24 WHEREAS, The ACA's cuts to Medicare Advantage plans will  
25 disproportionately impact Hispanics and Latinos that are twice  
26 as likely to be enrolled when compared to traditional Medicare  
27 enrollees; and

28 WHEREAS, The ACA's cuts to Medicare Advantage plans will  
29 disproportionately impact lower-income seniors as those making  
30 between \$10,800 to \$21,600 are 19% more likely to be enrolled

1 when compared to traditional Medicare enrollees; and

2 WHEREAS, Seniors will face fewer choices of insurance plans  
3 and doctors, higher out-of-pocket costs and reduced benefits  
4 under the ACA's Medicare cuts; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
6 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United  
7 States to not spend taxpayer money on Medicaid expansion and  
8 instead to use it to reverse the painful cuts, loss of choice  
9 and benefits for seniors on Medicare under the ACA. Before  
10 extending Medicaid to working-age, able-bodied, childless adults  
11 under the ACA, the Federal Government should keep its promises  
12 to our most vulnerable seniors; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
14 the President and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.