

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 343 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY KOTIK, SAINATO, PALLONE, SOLOBAY, MUSTIO, DePASQUALE, MIRABITO, McILVAINE SMITH, STABACK, KIRKLAND, HORNAMAN, MENSCH, SIPTROTH, O'NEILL, BAKER, M. O'BRIEN, MARSHALL, SWANGER, HESS, MELIO, KULA, READSHAW, D. COSTA, SAYLOR AND FREEMAN, JUNE 9, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, JUNE 9, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing the United States Congress to not impose tax on
2 employer-paid health insurance benefits.

3 WHEREAS, Proposals have been introduced in Congress to tax
4 employer-paid health insurance benefits as a way to partially
5 fund health care reform efforts; and

6 WHEREAS, For 55 years, Congress has excluded from income
7 taxes the cost of employer-provided health care; and

8 WHEREAS, Employer contributions to the premiums of their
9 employees' health insurance is currently considered a tax-
10 deductible business expense; and

11 WHEREAS, Approximately 60% of individuals under 65 years of
12 age receive health insurance through their employers; and

13 WHEREAS, The average cost of health insurance for an
14 individual is approximately \$4,000 per year; and

15 WHEREAS, If taxable, health insurance benefits would increase
16 the tax burden on a middle class family by approximately \$1,250

1 annually; and

2 WHEREAS, During the current economic downturn, a tax increase
3 would make it more difficult for those with low and moderate
4 incomes to pay their bills; and

5 WHEREAS, Many individuals could find themselves paying taxes
6 on their health insurance even if they do not have to visit a
7 physician's office or hospital in a given year; therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
9 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize the United States
10 Congress to not impose tax on employer-paid health insurance
11 benefits; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
13 the President of the United States, the presiding officers of
14 each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from
15 Pennsylvania.