

SESSION OF 2013

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION NO. 5013**

As Recommended by House Committee on  
Appropriations

**Brief\***

HCR 5013 states the will of the Kansas Legislature is that the State of Kansas not expand Medicaid above its current eligibility levels.

Among the findings stated in the resolution are:

- The federal government authorized the expansion of Medicaid services to cover people with income in the 100 to 133 percent of the federal poverty level. The expansion would increase the number of individuals receiving public assistance;
- The expansion of Medicaid services with federal funds as provided for in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will commit future Kansas legislatures and the citizens of Kansas to share the cost in future years;
- The expansion would harm the state economy and increase the number of Kansans receiving public assistance;
- Kansas is committed to Kansas solutions to Kansas problems and the citizens of Kansas provide assistance to the most vulnerable through safety net clinics, support for physicians and hospitals, and other assistance; and

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

- The State's official forecast has indicated Medicaid expansion, combined with the woodwork effect, will cost the state in excess of \$1.0 billion over the next ten years.

## **Background**

At the House Appropriations Committee hearing on the resolution, Representative Crum spoke in favor of the resolution and noted the cost study commissioned by the Department of Health and Environment. He noted concern with the federal share especially on the previously eligible but new participants, also called the woodwork effect, would not be at 100 percent federal share, but rather the current federal participation amount of approximately 56 percent. Representative Crum also noted the other ways the State supports the uninsured in Kansas and draws down federal moneys for health care, including the nursing facilities assessment, the disproportionate share hospital payments, and funding for the safety net clinics.

Opponents who spoke against the resolution included representatives of the Health Reform Resource Project, Kansas Hospital Association, and Mercy Hospitals (Columbus, Fort Scott, and Independence). In addition, several organizations submitted written testimony in opposition to the resolution, including: Association of Community Mental Health Centers, Kansas Academy of Family Physicians, Kansas Association for Medically Underserved, Kansans for Liberty, Kansas Medical Society, and National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

In addition, several hospitals and health centers, including: Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center, Newton Medical Center, Rawlins County Health Center, Salina Regional Health Center, Shawnee Mission Medical Center, Stormont-Vail Health Care, Via Christi Health, and Williams Newton Hospital, submitted written testimony noting their concern

with the resolution. The testimony generally stated the resolution was premature and those conferees requested the legislature wait and see what flexibility the federal government might allow to make Medicaid expansion a Kansas-based program.

The Department of Health and Environment submitted written documents for informational purposes only.

There was no fiscal note associated with the resolution.