

House Resolution 561

By: Representatives Burmeister of the 96th, Rogers of the 15th, Harper of the 88th, Post 2, Watson of the 60th, Post 2, Bridges of the 7th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 To urge the appropriate state officials to take all necessary steps to obtain the federal grant
2 moneys available under the federal Trade Act of 2002 to assist in the implementation of the
3 Georgia High Risk Health Insurance Plan; and for other purposes.
- 4 WHEREAS, Georgia enacted the Georgia High Risk Health Insurance Plan in 1989; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the state has not funded this insurance plan since its enactment and it remains
6 dormant as a result; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Congress passed the Trade Act of 2002, 107 H.R. 3009, Public Law 107-210,
8 which contains provisions and grant funding for states that enact and establish high risk
9 health insurance plans; and
- 10 WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the citizens of the State of Georgia to apply for up
11 to \$1 million in federal grants as provided for in the Trade Act of 2002 to establish the high
12 risk health insurance plan for the State of Georgia; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the state can use such grant funds to determine the amount of appropriations
14 necessary to fund such a high risk health insurance pool; and
- 15 WHEREAS, the state is preauthorized to appropriate such funds when the amount is
16 determined and to report the same to the General Assembly and the Governor with the
17 intention of creating a guarantee of state funding regardless of the findings of eligibility
18 necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Trade Act of 2002; and
- 19 WHEREAS, the state is authorized to determine methods of permanent funding of the high
20 risk health insurance pool created by the Georgia High Risk Health Insurance Plan, including
21 the drafting of a constitutional amendment providing for earmarked funds from an annual
22 assessment of the health insurance industry.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
2 GEORGIA that the members of the General Assembly urge the appropriate state officials to
3 take all necessary steps to obtain the federal grant moneys available under the federal Trade
4 Act of 2002 to assist in the implementation of the Georgia High Risk Health Insurance Plan.