

House Resolution 431

By: Representatives Turner of the 21st, Setzler of the 35th, Brockway of the 102nd, Lott of the 122nd, and Coomer of the 14th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on the Ramifications of Changes in Federal Health
2 Care Policy; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the federal Affordable Care Act, enacted under the Obama administration in
4 2010, requires individual mandates for health insurance, minimum standards of care, and
5 other requirements; and

6 WHEREAS, on January 29, 2017, newly elected President Trump issued an executive order
7 stating that it is the policy of the Trump administration to repeal the 2010 health care law and
8 giving the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, "all authority and
9 discretion available to them to waive, defer, grant exemptions from, or delay the
10 implementation" of Obamacare; and

11 WHEREAS, former United States Representative Tom Price, confirmed February 10, 2017,
12 as the new secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, has been a longtime
13 critic of the Affordable Care Act; and

14 WHEREAS, a year after the law was passed, Price released a statement calling the law "a
15 costly and misguided encroachment of government that will destroy jobs and drive our nation
16 further toward a fiscal crisis"; and

17 WHEREAS, there has been discussion at the federal level that a patient-centered alternative
18 will be proposed as a replacement that reduces regulation, promotes portability, expands
19 health savings accounts, establishes state-based high-risk pools, and provides block grants
20 Medicaid to states; and

21 WHEREAS, United States Senator Rand Paul introduced "The Obamacare Replacement Act"
22 in January, 2017, which would remove parts of the Affordable Care Act, including the
23 individual mandate and minimum standards for care; and

24 WHEREAS, federal health care laws and regulations are in a state of flux and it is unclear
25 how ongoing federal health care policy changes will impact the State of Georgia; and

26 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to undertake a study of federal health care policy changes
27 that may impact the state budget and health care in this state, including but not limited to:

- 28 (1) Affordable Care Act regulatory reforms and repeal status;
- 29 (2) Changes to the Medicaid program, including potential block grants;
- 30 (3) Hospital provider fee changes; and
- 31 (4) Possible hospital provider fee replacements.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

33 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
34 on the Ramifications of Changes in Federal Health Care Policy.

35 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of seven members of the
36 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
37 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson
38 of the committee.

39 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,
40 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or
41 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

42 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee
43 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
44 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
45 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

46 (5) **Allowances and funding.** The legislative members of the committee shall receive
47 the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia
48 Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any
49 member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.
50 Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
51 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

52 (6) **Report.**

53 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that
54 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file a report of the
55 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to
56 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

57 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for
58 proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file the report, subject to subparagraph (C)
59 of this paragraph.

60 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
61 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
62 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
63 the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

64 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Clerk of the
65 House of Representatives a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu
66 thereof.

67 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2017.