

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 65

INTRODUCED BY T. WOODS

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF REFERENCE-BASED PRICING IN INSURANCE PLANS; AND REQUIRING THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 67TH LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, health care costs continue to negatively impact the citizens and economy of the state of Montana; and

WHEREAS, reference-based pricing has shown promise at controlling health care costs; and

WHEREAS, reference-based pricing brings transparency and consistency to health care costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, to study the effects of reference-based pricing on health care prices and transparency in health care pricing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee:

(1) review the development of and use of reference-based pricing in the state employee group benefits plan;

(2) review the use of reference-based pricing by other public employee benefits plans, private insurance plans, and private employers, particularly Montana-based plans and employers, where possible;

(3) evaluate whether reference-based pricing has:

(a) improved transparency in health care pricing;

(b) contributed to a reduction in the costs of health care for individuals or the overall costs to the state employee group benefits plan or other plans using the pricing practice and, if so, the degree to which it contributed to reduced costs;

(c) affected the ability or willingness of health care providers to participate in a health insurance plan or network;

(d) changed the way individuals make choices when obtaining health care services; or

1 (e) created barriers for individuals covered by plans using reference-based pricing;

2 (4) evaluate whether increased use of reference-based pricing could lower health care costs for  
3 Montanans;

4 (5) identify any barriers to greater use of reference-based pricing in health plans and potential solutions  
5 to those barriers; and

6 (6) if practical, develop a plan for implementing reference-based pricing statewide.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review  
8 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2020.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,  
10 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 67th Legislature.

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