

By: Senator(s) Hickman, Barnett

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 89

1 A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
2 IN ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

3 WHEREAS, in 2019, the U.S. Department of Health and Human
4 Services launched the "Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Initiative"
5 with the goal of reducing new Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
6 infections by 90% by 2030, through the four key pillars of the EHE
7 initiative-Diagnose, Treat, Prevent and Respond; and

8 WHEREAS, many people may experience health literacy barriers
9 due to social determinants, and this lack of awareness may limit
10 an individual's ability to recognize and advocate for necessary
11 medical care, including treatment that is best suited for their
12 health needs, and engage in a shared decision-making approach with
13 their providers; and

14 WHEREAS, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved
15 multiple pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medications that are
16 extremely effective at preventing individuals from acquiring HIV
17 as studies have shown a correlation between increased PrEP uptake
18 and decreases in new HIV diagnoses in the U.S.; and



19 WHEREAS, inequities in access to PrEP across populations
20 vulnerable to HIV have led to increasing disparities in HIV
21 incidence, transmission, and viral suppression, with a lower
22 percentage of African American and Hispanics actively taking PrEP
23 or discussing PrEP with a healthcare provider; and

24 WHEREAS, in order to support EHE efforts to expand access to
25 HIV prevention therapies, all health care providers should be
26 educated on the value of PrEP, and should be available to provide
27 PrEP when an individual is ready for it; and

28 WHEREAS, states should prioritize access to PrEP, including
29 new innovative modalities, by enforcing Affordable Care Act
30 requirements that USPSTF Grade A- or B-rated services should be
31 available to beneficiaries at zero cost under private insurance
32 programs; and

33 WHEREAS, states should support the under and uninsured
34 populations through support of state and federally funded PrEP
35 programs:

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
37 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby recognize the importance of open
38 access to all FDA-approved HIV medications and HIV-related health
39 care services and treatments, including the crucial importance of
40 PrEP, to the "Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative" and to improving
41 health outcomes, reducing health disparities and reducing
42 transmission of HIV, and encourage state policymakers to implement
43 policies to do the same.



44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted
45 to the Commissioner of Insurance for the State of Mississippi and
46 made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

