

By: Representative Robinson (63rd)

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 125

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO
2 ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE THAT FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
3 BENEFITS WILL CONTINUE TO BE PROVIDED TO PERSONS AFTER THEIR
4 CONVICTION OF A CRIME, AND TO AUTHORIZE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE
5 APPLICATION FOR THOSE BENEFITS FOR PERSONS INCARCERATED IN LOCAL
6 FACILITIES IF THEY DO NOT SEEK CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY FOR THOSE
7 BENEFITS.

8 WHEREAS, when a person is convicted of a crime in this state
9 and incarcerated in a local facility, it is generally the
10 responsibility of the local government to bear the costs of
11 providing medical care to that person during his or her
12 incarceration; and

13 WHEREAS, at the time of their conviction, many of those
14 persons are recipients of medical assistance benefits from
15 programs of the federal government, such as Medicare, Medicaid or
16 veterans benefits; and

17 WHEREAS, after those persons are incarcerated, the federal
18 medical assistance benefits are often discontinued, either because
19 of the requirements of federal law or regulation or because the
20 persons do not pursue continued eligibility for those benefits;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, if those persons continued to receive the federal
23 medical assistance benefits during their incarceration, the local
24 governments would be relieved of the financial burden of paying
25 all or part of the costs of providing medical care for them:

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
27 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
28 THEREIN, That we urge the United States Congress to enact
29 appropriate legislation that will (1) provide that when a person



30 who is receiving medical assistance benefits from a federal
31 government program is convicted of a crime, those benefits will
32 continue to be provided to the person after his or her conviction,
33 and (2) authorize local governments to make application for
34 federal medical assistance benefits for persons incarcerated in
35 local facilities if those persons do not seek continued
36 eligibility for those benefits.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
38 furnished to each member of the Mississippi Congressional
39 Delegation, the Speaker of the United States House of
40 Representatives, the President and President Pro Tempore of the
41 United States Senate, the majority and minority leaders of the
42 United States House of Representatives and the United States
43 Senate, the Secretary of the United States Department of Health
44 and Human Services, the Secretary of the United States Department
45 of Veterans Affairs, and members of the Capitol Press Corps.

