



uLegislate

The Nevada Senate's Simulation Experience

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS FOR BILL SPONSOR

Prepared for uLegislate

Note: Use of this speech is optional in the uLegislate simulation. If you would like to make your own arguments in support of the piece of legislation, please do! But if you would like some help, we have written these introductory remarks, which you can make immediately after the Secretary of the Senate reads the bill and the President asks for remarks.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8

Urges Congress not to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or its most important provisions.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS:

Thank you, (Mr./Madam) President. Access to quality health care is vitally important to every Nevadan. Lack of insurance and high costs are often cited as barriers to accessing appropriate care. Health insurance helps make health care services more affordable and accessible. The health insurance environment in Nevada changed significantly with the implementation of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the ACA, which not only expanded health insurance coverage, but also led to important policy and program changes.

Between 2013 and 2015, the uninsured rate in Nevada declined from 19 to 11 percent. This drastic change was the result of ACA provisions, including Medicaid expansion, the ability of parents to keep young adult children on their health insurance plans, the health insurance mandate, new incentives for employers to provide health insurance and the creation of a marketplace to make it easier to purchase health insurance. However, even with improvements in coverage, Nevada's uninsured rate is still higher than the national average of 9 percent.

Recognizing the gains Nevada has made and the ground we still have to cover, I urge this Body to join me in urging Congress not to repeal the ACA or its most important provisions by approving Senate Joint Resolution No. 8.