

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 10–Committee  
on Legislative Operations and Elections

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Directing the Legislative Commission to study the feasibility, viability and design of a public healthcare insurance plan that may be offered to all residents of this State.

WHEREAS, Nevada continually ranks among the lowest of all states in national healthcare rankings; and

WHEREAS, Nevada faces difficulties in attracting private providers of health insurance to the Nevada marketplace; and

WHEREAS, Although the State maintains a robust system of healthcare coverage for the public sector that supports more than 70,000 Nevadans through the Public Employees’ Benefits Program, small businesses and individual participants in the Nevada healthcare insurance market face expensive or insufficient options for healthcare coverage; and

WHEREAS, The Nevada Legislature has an inherent interest in protecting the health, safety and general welfare of all Nevadans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the Legislative Commission is hereby directed to study the feasibility, viability and design of a public healthcare insurance plan that is made available to all residents of this State and that will:

1. Improve stability in the health insurance market in this State;
2. Reduce the number of Nevadans without health insurance coverage; and
3. Increase access to affordable coverage for health care and services to all Nevadans; and be it further

RESOLVED, That to complete the study, the Legislative Commission may enter into a contract with one or more consultants to conduct an actuarial or other appropriate analyses to determine:

1. The feasibility of offering a public option health insurance plan that is established to allow any resident of this State to participate in the Public Employees’ Benefits Program and the effect that such an option would have on individual and small group health insurance markets;
2. The amount of premiums charged by health insurers in this State and the premiums that would need to be charged to persons



who elect to participate in a public option health insurance plan within the Public Employees' Benefits Program;

3. Any plan modifications that may need to be made to the Public Employees' Benefits Program if offered as a public option health insurance plan;

4. Any reasonable and allowable requirements to impose on eligibility to participate in a public option health insurance plan within the Public Employees' Benefits Program;

5. The impact of offering a public option health insurance plan within the Public Employees' Benefits Program on:

(a) The budget for the State;

(b) The stability of the insurance market generally and the Nevada health benefit exchange; and

(c) The rate of uninsured persons in this State;

6. The feasibility of establishing a pilot program to offer a public health insurance plan in areas of the State which have limited options for obtaining health insurance and where it is unaffordable for many because the premium rates are higher than in other parts of the State;

7. The feasibility of offering a statewide public health insurance plan through a public-private partnership; and

8. Any legal considerations and statutory or regulatory changes that may be necessary to carry out any public health insurance whether or not included within the Public Employees' Benefits Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chair of the Legislative Commission or his or her designee shall be designated to provide direction to the consultant regarding the study; and be it further

RESOLVED, That any consultant engaged to carry out any part of the study shall, as appropriate, consult with and solicit the input of state agencies with expertise in matters relevant to access to and quality of health care, the cost of health insurance plans, the impact of federal subsidies on the cost of health care, alternative models for provider reimbursement and short-term and long-term marketplace sustainability; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission may apply for and accept any grants, gifts, donations, bequests or others sources of money to carry out the study; and be it further

RESOLVED, That upon completion of work by any consultant, the consultant shall prepare a report of its findings for presentation or submission to the Legislative Commission; and be it further



RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission submit a report of the results of the study to the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the Chair of the Public Employees' Benefits Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon adoption.

