

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27

BY SENATOR MCMATH AND REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the Congress of the United States to take action relative to the corporate practice of medicine.

WHEREAS, the corporate practice of medicine refers to the practice of medicine by entities, such as corporations, that are not composed entirely of licensed healthcare professionals and may employ healthcare professionals to provide medical services in a manner that may be contrary to ethical, legal, and professional standards; and

WHEREAS, the corporate practice of medicine can undermine the independence of healthcare professionals by subjecting them to commercial pressures, potentially compromising the quality of patient care and the integrity of medical decision-making; and

WHEREAS, there is growing concern that corporate entities may prioritize profit over patient care, leading to practices such as limiting time for patient consultations, directing healthcare professionals to meet arbitrary financial targets, and engaging in cost-cutting measures that may impact the standard of care; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana is committed to maintaining a high standard of medical practice that ensures patients receive the highest quality care and that medical professionals are able to exercise their clinical judgment in the best interest of their patients; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature has consistently prioritized the protection of public health and the rights of patients, including through the regulation of medical professionals and the licensing of healthcare entities; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that both state and federal governments address the potential risks posed by the corporate practice of medicine to safeguard the doctor-patient relationship and preserve the ethical integrity of medical practice; and

WHEREAS, Congress has the authority to enact federal legislation that would protect patients and healthcare professionals by regulating or limiting the corporate practice of medicine and ensuring that medical professionals are not unduly influenced by corporate interests.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to thoroughly examine the impact of corporate practices on the healthcare workforce and on healthcare delivery and to support a robust, patient-centered healthcare system by ensuring the following:

(1) The independence of healthcare professionals is preserved and protected.

(2) Corporate entities are prohibited from interfering with the clinical decision-making of healthcare professionals in ways that could adversely affect patient care.

(3) Adequate protections are established to ensure that healthcare decisions are made in the best interest of patients, free from undue financial or commercial pressures.

(4) Patients continue to receive high-quality, ethical care in a manner consistent with professional standards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate, the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES