2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 215

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

HEALTH: Memorializes congress to pass the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act of 2021

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To memorialize the United States Congress to pass the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act of
3	2021.
4	WHEREAS, the National Institutes of Health has reported that the obesity epidemic
5	is now the second leading cause of death in the United States, with an estimated three
6	hundred thousand deaths per year nationally attributed to the epidemic; and
7	WHEREAS, obesity increases the risk for chronic diseases and conditions including
8	high blood pressure, heart disease, certain cancers, arthritis, mental illness, lipid disorders,
9	sleep apnea, and type two diabetes; and
10	WHEREAS, over thirty-four percent of rural Americans live with obesity while just
11	under twenty-nine percent of Americans who reside in metropolitan areas live with the
12	condition; and
13	WHEREAS, racial and ethnic minority groups have been disproportionately
14	impacted by this epidemic with the highest prevalence of obesity occurring among
15	non-Hispanic blacks (forty-nine and six-tenths percent) followed by Hispanics (forty-four
16	and eight-tenths percent), non-Hispanic whites (forty-two and two-tenths percent), and
17	non-Hispanic Asian adults (seventeen and four-tenths percent); and
18	WHEREAS, currently, over one trillion four hundred billion dollars are expended
19	annually on direct and indirect costs for treating health conditions related to obesity; and

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1	WHEREAS, on average, measured in 2019 dollars, the annual cost of health care for
2	a Medicare beneficiary with obesity is two thousand eighteen dollars more than the annual
3	cost of health care for a beneficiary of healthy weight; and
4	WHEREAS, the overall improvement in public health resulting from coverage for
5	obesity treatments would lead to lower expenditures in emergency room care, ambulatory
6	care, inpatient stays, and prescriptions and is estimated to achieve net savings in healthcare
7	costs of approximately seven thousand dollars per person over ten years; and
8	WHEREAS, utilization of obesity treatments are predicted to generate Medicare
9	budget savings of between eighteen billion dollars and twenty-three billion dollars over ten
10	years; and
11	WHEREAS, less than one percent of Medicare beneficiaries with obesity are able
12	to access obesity care; and
13	WHEREAS, the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act of 2021 (TROA) has been introduced
14	as H.R. 1577 and S. 596 in the One Hundred Seventeenth United States Congress; and
15	WHEREAS, this legislation is a real opportunity to help adults living with obesity
16	by making targeted therapies and medications more widely available through Medicare; and
17	WHEREAS, the Medicare coverage changes proposed by TROA would decrease
18	federal government spending by approximately twenty-five million dollars over the fiscal
19	year 2020 through 2029 budget period; and
20	WHEREAS, with cosponsors representing both the Democratic and Republican
21	Parties, TROA enjoys bipartisan support in both the United States Senate and House of
22	Representatives, and Senator Bill Cassidy and Representative Garrett Graves of Louisiana
23	are among the cosponsors of this legislation; and
24	WHEREAS, organizations that have endorsed TROA include the Academy of
25	Nutrition and Dietetics, American Academy of PAs, American Association of Clinical
26	Endocrinologists, American Association of Nurse Practitioners, American College of
27	Occupational and Environmental Medicine, American Council on Excellence, American
28	Gastroenterological Association, American Medical Group Association, American
29	Psychological Association, American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, Black
30	Woman's Health Imperative, Eisai, Endocrine Society, Global Liver Institute, Healthcare

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1 Leadership Council, MedTech Coalition for Metabolic Health, National Alliance of 2 Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions, Novo Nordisk, Obesity Action Coalition, Obesity Medicine 3 Association, Strategies to Overcome and Prevent Obesity Alliance, The Obesity Society, 4 Trust for America's Health, WW International, and YMCA of the USA. 5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the 6 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to pass the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act of 2021. 7 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the

- 9 presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the
- 10 United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Bagley

Memorializes the United States Congress to pass the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act of 2021 (H.R. 1577 and S. 596 of the 117th U.S. Congress).