

Second Regular Session

Sixty-second General Assembly

LLS NO. R00-0909.01 Julie Hoerner

STATE OF COLORADO

BY REPRESENTATIVES Morrison, Berry, Saliman, and Tool;
also SENATOR Reeves

ENGROSSED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 00-1007

101 CONCERNING A STUDY BY DESIGNATED EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCY
102 DIRECTORS TO EVALUATE THE FEASIBILITY OF THE STATE
103 REQUIRING ASSISTANCE TO MEDICARE RECIPIENTS FOR
104 PHARMACEUTICAL REIMBURSEMENT.

1 WHEREAS, Americans spent an estimated one hundred billion
2 dollars for prescription medications in 1998, an increase of approximately
3 eighty-four percent over the previous five years; and

4 WHEREAS, Prescription medication expenditures increased forty
5 percent in 1998, an increase driven by better science that
6 allows earlier and better diagnosis and treatment of disease, more patients
7 entering treatment, changing demographics, a shifting mix and intensity
8 of therapies, increased quantities prescribed, introduction of new
9 therapies, and better disease management; and

10 WHEREAS, Americans are consuming more prescription
11 medications than ever before; and

12 WHEREAS, New and better medications are available on the
13 market due to increased research into the causes of debilitating diseases
14 and more new and improved treatments for life threatening diseases such
15 as heart attacks, stroke, cancer, and HIV; a fast-track approval
16 system by the Federal Food and Drug Administration; and advertising to
17 encourage consumers to request specific medications be evaluated and
18 prescribed by their physicians; and

19 WHEREAS, Commitments that persons who have insurance
20 coverage pay have increased and changed in structure; and

21 WHEREAS, While new prescription medications are showing a
22 sharp increase in price, the medical benefits for treatment of diseases
23 have also increased dramatically; and

24 WHEREAS, New prescription medications have provided more
25 effective treatments for depression and osteoporosis and the ability to
26 treat previously untreatable ailments; now, therefore,

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.

Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.

Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

HOUSE
Final Reading
April 14, 2000

1 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-second*
2 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, and the Senate concurring*
3 *herein:*

4 (1) That the executive branch agency directors for the Department
5 of Public Health and Environment, the Department of Health Care Policy
6 and Financing, the Office of State Planning and Budgeting, and the
7 Department of Personnel include in the study of consolidating the
8 contract purchasing by the state an evaluation of the feasibility of offering
9 residents eligible for Medicare and who are below one hundred
10 eighty-five percent of the federal poverty level the option to receive
11 prescription medications from the state. The report shall include an
12 analysis of:

13 (a) The cost to the state for purchasing such pharmaceuticals as
14 well as the cost of providing pharmaceuticals through the current
15 fee-for-service system and other alternatives;

16 (b) The number of residents that would benefit from such
17 pharmaceutical assistance;

18 (c) The impact that such purchasing consolidation and
19 prescription discounts may have on other consumers and entities in the
20 state, including pharmacies and pharmaceutical manufacturers; and

21 (d) The impact of and considerations necessary for the
22 establishment by the state of an adequate distribution system for drugs
23 purchased through the consolidated purchasing program.

24 (2) That this study be completed by June 30, 2000, and a report
25 be made to the General Assembly and the chairpersons of the Committees
26 on Health, Environment, Welfare, and Institutions for the House of
27 Representatives and the Senate.

28 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be sent to
29 Jane Norton, executive director for the Department of Public Health and
30 Environment; Jim Rizzuto, the executive director of the Department of
31 Health Care Policy and Financing; Nancy McCallin, the Office of State
32 Planning and Budgeting; Larry Trujillo, the executive director of the
33 Department of Personnel; and the chairpersons for the Committees on
34 Health, Environment, Welfare, and Institutions for the House of
35 Representatives and the Senate.