

**First Regular Session  
Sixty-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R03-1115.01 Michele Hanigsberg

**HJR03-1063**

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**Plant**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Fitz-Gerald,** Gordon, Grossman, Isgar, Nichol, Reeves, Tapia, and Tupa

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**House Committees**

Health, Environment, Welfare, &  
Institutions

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**Senate Committees**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 03-1063**

101     **CONCERNING A REQUEST THAT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS**  
102     **INCREASE COLORADO'S FEDERAL MEDICAID MATCH RATE.**

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1           WHEREAS, Colorado's medicaid program is jointly funded by the  
2 state and the federal government to cover the costs of health care for the  
3 poor, elderly, and disabled; and

4           WHEREAS, The federal government has consistently calculated  
5 the medicaid matching rates for states based on state per capita income  
6 data that is more than 3 years old; and

7           WHEREAS, The calculation for Colorado's federal medicaid  
8 matching rate should reflect the current economic trends that Colorado is  
9 experiencing; and

10          WHEREAS, Colorado experienced a decline of 15% in state  
11 general fund revenues in fiscal year 2001-02; and

12          WHEREAS, It is projected that Colorado's state general fund

*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.*

1 revenue will decline 3.2% in fiscal year 2002-03, which would mean a  
2 loss of \$1.2 billion dollars in revenue over a 2 year period; and

3 WHEREAS, Colorado's medicaid caseload has grown 9.29% over  
4 the same period of time in which Colorado has experienced a projected  
5 \$1.2 billion dollar revenue loss; and

6 WHEREAS, Colorado's medicaid caseload is projected to increase  
7 another 5.23% in fiscal year 2003-04; and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately 9% of Colorado's families live at or  
9 below the federal poverty level and approximately 25% of Colorado's  
10 families are low-income; and

11 WHEREAS, Colorado has been experiencing an economic  
12 downturn, which is also affecting most areas of the country, and the  
13 proportion of medicaid costs that the federal government bears is  
14 declining; and

15 WHEREAS, Additional federal dollars could help fund Colorado's  
16 increased medicaid caseload or help to prevent or reduce major cuts in  
17 Colorado's medicaid services or the state's medicaid provider payments;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, An increase in Colorado's federal match rate could  
20 help free up state funds otherwise needed for the state's medicaid program  
21 in order to avoid cuts in other areas of the state budget, such as education  
22 and economic development; now, therefore,

23 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-fourth*  
24 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring*  
25 *herein:*

26 That we, the members of the Sixty-fourth General Assembly of the  
27 State of Colorado, hereby request that Colorado's congressional  
28 delegation and the United States Congress support and work to pass  
29 necessary modifications to the current medicaid federal financial  
30 participation rate in order to increase the federal match that Colorado  
31 receives.

32 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be  
33 sent to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the  
34 Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and to each member of  
35 Colorado's delegation to the United States Congress.