

**2007 -- H 6560**

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LC03385  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2007**

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**J O I N T   R E S O L U T I O N**

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ACT IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF PERSONS IN NEED OF HEALTH INSURANCE BY FACILITATING ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT FOR THE RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BY REQUIRING ONLY SUCH DOCUMENTATION AS IS MANDATED TO BE PROVIDED BY RELEVANT FEDERAL REGULATIONS

Introduced By: Representatives Diaz, Slater, Almeida, Segal, and Rice

Date Introduced: June 20, 2007

Referred To: Placed on House Calendar

1           WHEREAS, Thousands of Rhode Island children are losing health insurance this year  
2 due to the application of enrollment documentation requirements imposed as a result of federal  
3 policy changes; and

4           WHEREAS, The rapidly growing number of uninsured individuals in our state is  
5 crushing our health care safety net, resulting in severe financial shortfalls in our community  
6 health centers and hospitals; and

7           WHEREAS, Pending federal legislation may allow for state flexibility in the application  
8 of the onerous federal documentation requirements; and

9           WHEREAS, Current departmental policy may exceed the federal documentation  
10 requirements, leading to a delay or gap in coverage for eligible women; and

11           WHEREAS, The continued lack of coordination and electronic transfer of vital records  
12 between the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services acts as a further  
13 barrier to access health care among our working families; now, therefore be it

14           RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence  
15 Plantations hereby intends that children, parents and pregnant women who are eligible for health  
16 insurance through the medical assistance and/or SCHIP programs and who meet the income and  
17 resource limitations established by Rhode Island law, be enrolled without undue delay in RIte

1 Care or Rite Share, as appropriate; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That this General Assembly hereby requests that the Rhode Island  
3 Department of Human Services acts in the best interests of persons in need of health insurance by  
4 facilitating eligibility and enrollment for the Rhode Island Medical Assistance Program by  
5 requiring only such documentation as is mandated to be provided by relevant federal law and  
6 regulations; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
8 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Director of the Rhode Island Department of  
9 Human Services.

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