

Rep. _____ offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. _____

A resolution to memorialize Congress to protect religious liberty and individual conscience rights in accessing or providing health care and health insurance plans.

Whereas, religious liberty, for both individuals and organized religions and churches, is a cornerstone of our nation since its founding; and

Whereas, the right of individual conscience has long been held sacrosanct in our nation, allowing for a diversity of beliefs to be respected and accepted within our daily living, and

Whereas, the health care system in America is undergoing tremendous structural change and financial stresses; and

Whereas, the federal law effecting many of these changes – the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) – did not adequately address matters of rights of conscience in health care services which can conflict with the religious or moral beliefs of individual patients, groups or employers, purchasers of health care insurance, individual health care providers, hospitals and other health care facilities, and insurance providers; and

Whereas, religiously-affiliated hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and other health facilities provide a substantial and indispensable portion of the health care and are governed by specific religious and moral codes central to their mission as health care providers; and

Whereas, health insurers strive to provide flexible and diverse products to meet the needs of various, employers, groups or individuals in obtaining health care coverage, including needs dictated by their religious or moral beliefs; now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact comprehensive legislation to protect the religious liberty and individual conscience rights of all persons, health facilities, insurers and others involved in the delivery or financing of health care as it pertains to religious or moral objections to treatments or services.

Resolved, That said legislation must protect these liberties and rights so as not to favor one set of beliefs over another, but, to insure that all participants in the health care system may do so in manner consistent with their beliefs and conscience; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.