

Rep. Dillon offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 99.

A resolution to memorialize the Congress and the President of the United States to oppose any proposal that will eliminate the traditional Medicare program and to convert the Medicaid program to a block grant.

Whereas, It is well known that the Michigan economy has yet to fully recover from the economic crisis of the past decade and that the current state of the Michigan economy is fragile at best. In this fragile state, any legislation that would result in the elimination of jobs or an increase in cost for basic services would prove devastating; and

Whereas, The Republican state budget and tax plans recently passed through the Michigan Legislature will only increase the risk of the tenuous Michigan recovery failing. By increasing taxes on senior citizens and slashing resources for services they depend on, these actions have made life even more difficult for our older adults; and

Whereas, Rep. Paul Ryan, Chair of the United States House of Representatives Budget Committee, recently introduced a proposal to eliminate traditional Medicare for individuals under age 55 and replace it with a voucher system for purchasing private insurance. This measure would further burden seniors of this state who are already struggling with stretching their limited resources; and

Whereas, The congressional Republican plan could force at least 37,100 Michigan seniors to pay over \$3.8 million more for annual wellness and more than 97,700 Michigan seniors would pay \$55 million more for prescription drugs in 2012. The Congressional Republican plan to end Medicare will increase out-of-pocket health care costs for a typical 65 year-old Michigan senior by \$6,880 in 2022 – more than double the cost under current law; and

Whereas, Furthermore, by turning the Medicaid program into a block grant program, funding for the program would be cut by \$180 billion through 2020. The Congressional Republican plan could cost Michigan at least 49,200 private-sector jobs over the next five years. This drop off in private-sector jobs will put a greater burden on the state economy, and lead to a reduction in state revenue which could potentially cause a cut in already under funded public services; now, therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress and the President of the United States to oppose any proposal that would eliminate the traditional Medicare program and and to convert the Medicaid program to a block grant; 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.