IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 45

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND ENCOURAGING THE PROVIDERS OF HEALTH INSURANCE IN IDAHO TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN INSURANCE EXCHANGE AS PART OF THE SOLUTION TO HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, comprises comprehensive federal health care reform legislation, which is commonly referred to as the Affordable Care Act; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act is increasing health care costs, raising taxes, negatively affecting senior citizens, reducing the quality of care that Americans are receiving, limiting consumer choice in accessing private health insurance and reducing the ability of American companies to compete; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act constrains the freedom of individuals to choose their own doctor and interferes with individuals' ability to make personal health care decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act seeks to force states to implement government-owned health insurance exchanges, dismissing private sector innovations and solutions; and

WHEREAS, a state health insurance exchange created pursuant to the Affordable Care Act would strip the state of its sovereignty over health insurance matters; and

WHEREAS, a government health insurance exchange will cost consumers and taxpayers millions of dollars to set up and operate; and

WHEREAS, the solutions to the challenges facing our country generally spring forward from the private sector and through a robust free-market economic system; and

WHEREAS, companies and organizations in the free market have already created websites and services allowing consumers to pool resources for lower premiums and compare insurance products, prices and coverages at no cost to taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-first Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the providers of health insurance in Idaho are encouraged to establish their own private health insurance exchange as part of the solution to the rising costs of health insurance.