IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 49

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND INSTRUCTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE TO INVESTIGATE THE CREATION OF A HOSPITAL DISCHARGE DATABASE AND A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF HEALTHCARE DATA AND TO ESTABLISH AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO CREATE AN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SUCH DATA.

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

WHEREAS, the Health Quality Planning Commission (HQPC) was established by the Idaho Legislature in 2006 to promote improved quality of care, health outcomes, quality initiatives and patient safety in Idaho through investment in health information technology and other means; and

WHEREAS, over the past several years, the HQPC has examined a range of health issues that affect Idahoans, but efforts have been hampered because the data that is necessary to understand the scope and cost of these health issues in Idaho is not available; and

WHEREAS, in order to establish a complete picture of Idahoans' experiences with the health care system, Idaho and the HQPC need a statewide healthcare database system for collecting and reporting healthcare data; and

WHEREAS, according to the HQPC, a statewide healthcare database system can be done without putting any additional reporting burden on providers as the information is currently collected by providers and reported to payers, and payers would assume primary responsibility for the data reporting; and

WHEREAS, the HQPC states that a statewide healthcare database system would be developed in two simultaneous phases. Phase one would establish a hospital discharge database, and phase two would create a system of healthcare data including inpatient, outpatient and other care services, including information on care quality and cost; and

WHEREAS, the HQPC believes that collecting and distributing such complete, uniform information would give policymakers the information they need to make informed decisions and target investments for state dollars; provide transparency of data in order to identify and make needed improvements; provide the information necessary to assess quality improvement initiatives at the community level; help the public understand provider performance, clinical quality and patient safety standards; support provider efforts to design targeted quality improvement initiatives at the community level; and enable providers to compare their own performance with those of their peers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-second Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare is instructed to investigate creating both a hospital discharge database and a multifaceted system of healthcare data, including a distributed model of healthcare data collection.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare shall establish an advisory committee that would create a phased development and implementation plan and present the proposed plan for funding to the Idaho Legislature within one year of the commission date. Such a plan would include a recommendation about the framework needed for the data system, describe how it would be governed, estimate costs and propose options for funding.