HLS 14RS-687 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 174

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROSSETT

MEDICAID: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides for the expansion of Medicaid eligibility

## A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to add Article XII, Section 8.2 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide for expansion of eligibility standards for the medical assistance program, known also as Medicaid, in conformance with federal law; to authorize means by which expansion of Medicaid eligibility may be implemented; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article XII, Section 8.2 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

## §8.2. Medical Assistance Program Eligibility

With respect to the medical assistance program administered by the state in accordance with Title XIX of the Social Security Act, or any successor to that program, income eligibility standards of the program shall conform, at minimum, to the minimum standards provided in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law No. 111-148). The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals may implement the expansion of medical assistance program eligibility in a manner that is the same as or substantially similar to any expansion plan approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services which allows newly eligible medical assistance beneficiaries to purchase private insurance, and he may fix income

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1	eligibility standards at levels greater than the minimum levels if authorized by law
2	to do so.
3	Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
4	to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 4,
5	2014.
6	Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,
7	there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
8	to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
9	follows:
10	Do you support an amendment to expand eligibility for the Medicaid
11	program in this state, as provided for in the Patient Protection and Affordable
12	Care Act, in a manner which may, at the discretion of the state Medicaid
13	agency, be conducted through a program allowing new beneficiaries to
14	purchase private insurance? (Adds Article XII, Section 8.2)

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Provides for the expansion of Medicaid income eligibility standards in conformance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and authorizes the expansion to be implemented in a manner that allows newly eligible beneficiaries to purchase private insurance.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides for the expansion of Medicaid eligibility standards in conformance with federal law. Authorizes the secretary of DHH to implement Medicaid expansion in a manner that is the same as or substantially similar to any expansion plan approved by the federal Medicaid agency which allows newly eligible beneficiaries to purchase private insurance. Further provides that the secretary of DHH may fix Medicaid income eligibility standards at levels greater than the minimum levels if authorized by law to do so.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held November 4, 2014.

(Adds Const. Art. XII, §8.2)