

2015 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 10

BY SENATOR PETERSON

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

HEALTH CARE. Constitutional amendment to direct DHH to offer health insurance with essential health benefits to every legal resident of Louisiana whose income is at or below 138% of the federal poverty level. (2/3 - CA13s1(A))

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to add Article XII, Section 17 of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to access
3 to health care; to provide for a state-administered health insurance program
4 providing essential health benefits for certain Louisiana residents; to provide for
5 certain eligibility requirements; to provide for accessing of federal funds; to provide
6 for annual legislative appropriation of certain funds; and to specify an election for
7 submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.

8 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
9 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for
10 their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article XII,
11 Section 17 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

12 **§17. Access to health care**

13 **Section 17. Effective January 1, 2016, the Department of Health and**
14 **Hospitals shall administer a state program that makes available to every legal**
15 **resident of this state whose income is at or below one hundred thirty-eight**
16 **percent of the federal poverty level access to health insurance with essential**
17 **health benefits, as provided by federal law and related rules and regulations.**

not limited to funds available through the Affordable Care Act, or any successor to that act.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that the legislature shall annually appropriate the state and federal revenues necessary to fund this program to provide health insurance for this eligible population.

Provides for submission of the amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on October 24, 2015.

(Adds Const. Art. XII, Sec. 17)