

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. HJ0012

Medicaid Federal Medical Assistance Percentage-increase.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Nicholas, Northrup, Olsen,  
Sommers and Stith and Senator(s) Baldwin and  
Case

## A JOINT RESOLUTION

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting Congress to increase Wyoming's  
2 Federal Medical Assistance Percentage.

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4 WHEREAS, the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) is  
5 computed annually and used to calculate the federal share of  
6 Medicaid expenditures allocated to each state. The FMAP is  
7 based on a three (3) year average of state per capita personal  
8 income as compared to a three (3) year average of national  
9 per capita personal income; and

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11 WHEREAS, in 2021 eleven and four-tenths percent (11.4%) of  
12 Wyoming's population lived below the poverty line and twenty-  
13 seven and four-tenths percent (27.4%) of Wyoming families

1 earned less than one hundred ninety-nine percent (199%) of  
2 the poverty line; and

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4 WHEREAS, the cost of medical care in Wyoming is the highest  
5 in the forty-eight (48) contiguous states and the cost of  
6 health insurance in Wyoming is one of the highest in the  
7 United States; and

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9 WHEREAS, Wyoming is a frontier state composed of over seventy  
10 (70) communities of less than five thousand (5,000) residents  
11 and access to health care professionals is severely limited  
12 by distance and lack of qualified professional expertise; and

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14 WHEREAS, Wyoming's senior population is the fastest growing  
15 segment of its population which will result in a significant  
16 increase in related health care services and costs for the  
17 state; and

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19 WHEREAS, one northwestern county in Wyoming has a small  
20 population of very high income earners which  
21 disproportionately impacts the average state per capita  
22 personal income calculations by raising the state's per  
23 capita personal income by over five percent (5%); and

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2 WHEREAS, the number of physicians in Wyoming over the past  
3 ten (10) years has been declining; and

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5 WHEREAS, a majority of nursing home care providers in Wyoming  
6 are funded by Medicaid reimbursement rates and recent data  
7 demonstrates that the current reimbursement rates cover  
8 between sixty-five percent (65%) to seventy-two percent (72%)  
9 of actual nursing home costs putting seniors at a critical  
10 risk of losing nursing home care; and

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12 WHEREAS, Wyoming is currently at the minimum FMAP rate of  
13 fifty percent (50%); and

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15 WHEREAS, the surrounding states of Utah, Idaho, Montana,  
16 North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska have a higher FMAP  
17 rate than Wyoming which fiscally impacts health care  
18 providers operating adjacent to those states; and

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20 WHEREAS, an increase in Wyoming's FMAP rate would enable an  
21 adequate and equitable reimbursement and funding of medical  
22 assistance to needy Medicaid recipients in the state.

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1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE  
2 LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:

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4 **Section 1.** That the Wyoming Legislature requests that  
5 members of Wyoming's congressional delegation initiate action  
6 to increase the federal medical assistance percentage for  
7 Wyoming.

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9 **Section 2.** That the Wyoming Legislature requests that  
10 members of Wyoming's congressional delegation review  
11 alternatives and exceptions to current laws and regulations  
12 to allow for additional considerations in determining federal  
13 medical assistance percentage rates including the median  
14 income, health care related cost-of-living adjustments and  
15 rural health care needs.

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17 **Section 3.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming  
18 transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the  
19 United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker  
20 of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress  
21 and to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

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(END)