

1                   **JOINT RESOLUTION URGING SUPPORT OF**  
2                   **MEDICAID LONG-TERM CARE FUNDING OF**  
3                   **HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORTS**

4                                   2008 GENERAL SESSION

5                                   STATE OF UTAH

6                                   **Chief Sponsor: Michael E. Noel**

7                                   Senate Sponsor: Gene Davis

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9                   **LONG TITLE**

10                   **General Description:**

11                   This joint resolution of the Legislature urges Utah's congressional delegation to support  
12 Medicaid long-term care funding for home and community-based supports, state  
13 flexibility to manage long-term care costs, and cost efficiency and individual choice.

14                   **Highlighted Provisions:**

15                   This resolution:

- 16                   ▶ urges Utah's congressional delegation to support the continued shift of Medicaid  
17 long-term care funding toward home and community-based supports;
- 18                   ▶ urges the delegation to support providing states with the flexibility and tools needed  
19 to manage Medicaid long-term care costs in a fiscally responsible manner;
- 20                   ▶ urges the delegation to support providing Medicaid long-term care and supports in  
21 the most appropriate and cost-effective manner while maintaining individual choice;  
22 and
- 23                   ▶ urges the delegation to ensure the active participation of people with disabilities and  
24 older Americans in the ongoing design, implementation, and review of Medicaid's  
25 long-term care system.

26                   **Special Clauses:**

27                   None

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29                   *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

30 WHEREAS, Utah's population is aging and Utahns with disabilities are living longer,  
31 healthier lives;

32 WHEREAS, thousands of Utahns with disabilities and older Utahns currently need or  
33 will need long-term care and support to live productive lives in their communities;

34 WHEREAS, facility-based care is a mandatory benefit and community-based supports  
35 are an optional benefit of Medicaid;

36 WHEREAS, long-term care accounts for over 25% of all of Utah Medicaid spending;

37 WHEREAS, nearly 60% of long-term care expenditures in Utah Medicaid are for  
38 facility-based care;

39 WHEREAS, facility-based care can be up to five times more expensive than  
40 community-based support;

41 WHEREAS, Utah Medicaid costs are growing at a rate of approximately 10% per year;

42 WHEREAS, the Utah Legislature's Medicaid Interim Committee is seeking  
43 recommendations for containing costs and increasing accountability; and

44 WHEREAS, Medicaid long-term care reform must be a cooperative effort among the  
45 federal and state government, the private sector, and the disability and elderly communities;

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
47 urges Utah's congressional delegation to support the continued shift of Medicaid long-term care  
48 funding toward home and community-based supports.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges Utah's congressional  
50 delegation to support providing states with the flexibility and tools needed to manage Medicaid  
51 long-term care costs in a fiscally responsible manner.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges Utah's congressional  
53 delegation to support providing Medicaid long-term care and supports in the most appropriate  
54 and cost-effective manner while maintaining individual choice.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges Utah's congressional  
56 delegation to ensure the active participation of people with disabilities and older Americans in  
57 the ongoing design, implementation, and review of Medicaid's long-term care system.

58           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the members of  
59 Utah's congressional delegation, the members of the Utah Legislature's Medicaid Interim  
60 Committee, and the Disability Law Center.