**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO PROVIDE THAT THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SHALL MAINTAIN ITS MEDICALLY FRAGILE CHILDREN’S PROGRAM AND SHALL PURSUE OPTIONS TO OBTAIN AUTHORITY TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING PROGRAM WITH ITS CURRENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Whereas, H.R. 7130, introduced in the United States House of Representatives by Congressmen Brown and Spratt, amends Title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a State Plan option under Medicaid to provide an all‑inclusive program of care for children who are medically fragile or have one or more chronic conditions that impede their ability to function; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services currently operates the Medically Fragile Children’s Program, which was established in 1996. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services shall maintain the department’s Medically Fragile Children’s Program, which was established in 1996, and the department shall pursue any and all options with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for authority to maintain the existing program with its current eligibility criteria.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑