**South Carolina General Assembly**

121st Session, 2015-2016

**A95, R2, S225**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Senators Cromer and Setzler

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Introduced in the Senate on January 13, 2015

Introduced in the House on February 3, 2015

Passed by the General Assembly on February 18, 2015

Governor's Action: March 9, 2015, Signed

Summary: State Health Plan

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/10/2014 Senate Prefiled

12/10/2014 Senate Referred to Committee on **Finance**

1/13/2015 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 141](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-13-15.docx))

1/13/2015 Senate Referred to Committee on **Finance** ([Senate Journal‑page 141](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-13-15.docx))

1/27/2015 Senate Committee report: Favorable **Finance** ([Senate Journal‑page 18](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-27-15.docx))

1/28/2015 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 33](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-28-15.docx))

1/28/2015 Senate Roll call Ayes‑38 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 33](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-28-15.docx))

1/29/2015 Senate Read third time and sent to House ([Senate Journal‑page 11](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-29-15.docx))

2/3/2015 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 25](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\02-03-15.docx))

2/3/2015 House Referred to Committee on **Ways and Means** ([House Journal‑page 25](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\02-03-15.docx))

2/11/2015 House Recalled from Committee on **Ways and Means** ([House Journal‑page 37](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\02-11-15.docx))

2/17/2015 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 6](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\02-17-15.docx))

2/17/2015 House Roll call Yeas‑100 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 7](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\02-17-15.docx))

2/18/2015 House Read third time and enrolled ([House Journal‑page 10](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\02-18-15.docx))

3/5/2015 Ratified R 2

3/9/2015 Signed By Governor

3/11/2015 Effective date 03/09/15

8/17/2015 Act No. 95

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=225&session=121&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/10/2014](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\225_20141210.docx)

[1/27/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\225_20150127.docx)

[2/11/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\225_20150211.docx)

(A95, R2, S225)

**A JOINT RESOLUTION TO SUSPEND PROVISO 105.15 OF PART 1B OF THE 2014‑2015 APPROPRIATIONS ACT, RELATING TO REIMBURSEMENT RATES PAID TO PHARMACIES PARTICIPATING IN THE STATE HEALTH PLAN BY CATAMARAN, THE CONTRACTED PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER FOR THE PLAN.**

Whereas, in April 2014, Catamaran, the contracted pharmacy benefit manager for the State Health Plan, made certain adjustments to the reimbursement rates paid to pharmacies participating in the State Health Plan; and

Whereas, following those adjustments, certain independent South Carolina pharmacies raised concerns regarding the degree of the downward adjustments to the reimbursement rates paid for retail generic drug prescriptions; and

Whereas, in an effort to address those concerns, Proviso 105.15 was enacted in the 2014‑2015 General Appropriations Act to require that, effective January 1, 2015, all pharmacies participating in the State Health Plan be reimbursed on an equal and uniform per‑product basis by the State Health Plan; and

Whereas, in August 2014, the Public Employee Benefit Authority, the administrator of the State Health Plan, reached a contractual agreement with Catamaran to adjust the reimbursement rates paid to the affected independent pharmacies for retail generic prescriptions to rates that are consistent with the rates in effect immediately prior to the adjustments made in April 2014 and that are appropriate to fully, adequately, and properly maintain the State Health Plan’s pharmacy network in good faith; and

Whereas, in light of this contractual agreement between the Public Employee Benefit Authority and Catamaran, Proviso 105.15 is no longer necessary to address the concerns of the affected independent pharmacies and, in fact, the implementation of Proviso 105.15 would essentially negate the effect of that agreement. Now, therefore,

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

**Provision of State Health Plan suspended**

SECTION 1. Effective January 1, 2015, Proviso 105.15 of Part IB of the 2014‑2015 General Appropriations Act shall be suspended and of no effect for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2014‑2015.

**Time effective**

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

Ratified the 5th day of March, 2015.

Approved the 9th day of March, 2015.

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