

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES LYNN, Keller

Introduced: 1/21/14

Referred: Health and Social Services

A RESOLUTION

1 **Urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to repeal the**
2 **excise tax on medical devices.**

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 **WHEREAS** a new federal excise tax of 2.3 percent on the sale of taxable medical
5 devices by manufacturers, producers, and importers of those devices took effect January 1,
6 2013; and

7 **WHEREAS** the medical device tax is imposed on United States sales, rather than
8 profits, of medical device manufacturers, producers, and importers and will be particularly
9 damaging to innovative start-up companies; and

10 **WHEREAS** the medical device tax was projected to raise \$20,000,000,000, but that
11 estimate has risen to over \$30,000,000,000; and

12 **WHEREAS** the medical device tax will substantially increase the cost of health care
13 and takes direct aim at American innovation by punishing the researchers and manufacturers
14 of devices such as heart stents, pacemakers, patient monitors, artificial hips, limbs, and hearts,
15 and a multitude of other medical devices; and

16 **WHEREAS** thousands of layoffs in the United States have already occurred because

1 of the medical device tax; and

2 **WHEREAS** the medical device tax threatens regional economic vitality, badly needed
3 jobs, and patients' hopes for new, life-saving products and treatments; and

4 **WHEREAS** the repeal of the medical device tax has strong bipartisan support;

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the President of the
6 United States and the United States Congress to repeal the excise tax on medical devices.

7 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of
8 the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and
9 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the U.S. House of
10 Representatives; the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of
11 Representatives; the Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the
12 Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate; and the Honorable Lisa
13 Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,
14 U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.