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### **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9**

## IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

#### BY REPRESENTATIVE MINA

Introduced: 2/12/25 Referred: Health and Social Services

### A RESOLUTION

### 1 Urging the United States Congress to extend enhanced tax credits for health insurance

2 premiums under the Affordable Care Act.

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

4 **WHEREAS** affordable health care is a fundamental need for all state residents, and 5 access to medical care is essential for the well-being, economic stability, and dignity of 6 individuals and families; and

WHEREAS the federal Affordable Care Act has significantly reduced the number of
uninsured state residents, enabling tens of thousands of families, self-employed individuals,
hourly workers, and small business owners to secure health insurance and access necessary
medical care; and

WHEREAS the United States Congress originally enacted the health care premium tax credits through the American Rescue Plan and extended the tax credits in the Inflation Reduction Act, making health insurance more accessible and affordable for more than 23,000 state residents; and

WHEREAS the enhanced premium tax credits are set to expire at the end of 2025
 unless Congress takes action; and

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WHEREAS the expiration of the enhanced premium tax credits will result in the more
 than doubling of health insurance premiums for tens of thousands of state residents and will
 result in residents losing the ability to afford health insurance altogether; and

WHEREAS the expiration of the enhanced premium tax credits will force many state residents to choose between health care and other basic needs, such as housing and food, while also increasing reliance on state-funded assistance programs and emergency medical services, thereby straining the state's budget and resources; and

8 WHEREAS the continuation of enhanced premium tax credits is vital for maintaining 9 economic stability, lowering health care costs for families, and ensuring that state residents do 10 not delay or forgo critical medical care; and

WHEREAS reduced enrollment in the state's individual health insurance marketplace could destabilize risk pools, leading to higher premiums and the potential for more carriers to leave the already limited health insurance provider market in the state; and

WHEREAS failure to extend the enhanced premium tax credits will have severe economic and health consequences for families, individuals, the sustainability of the state's health insurance marketplace, and the economy of the state as a whole;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the United States Congress to act swiftly through budget reconciliation or other legislative means to extend beyond 2025 enhanced premium tax credits for health insurance premiums under the Affordable Care Act; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature calls on the state's congressional delegation to champion the extension of enhanced premium tax credits, prioritizing the health and economic stability of the state's residents by ensuring that affordable health care remains accessible to all.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President
 of the United States; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan Sullivan,
 U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Nicholas Begich, U.S. Representative, members of the
 Alaska delegation in Congress.