

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES MINA, Hall, Gray, Story, Josephson, Fields

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

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

11 **WHEREAS** the United States Congress originally enacted the health care premium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

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

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

4 **WHEREAS** the expiration of the enhanced premium tax credits will force many state
5 residents to choose between health care and other basic needs, such as housing and food,
6 while also increasing reliance on state-funded assistance programs and emergency medical
7 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

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

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

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

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

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