

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023

HR 1068

4
5 By: Representative Rose
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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO DECLARE THAT THE ARKANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
9 OPPOSE ANY EFFORT BY PRESIDENT BIDEN AND THE UNITED
10 STATES CONGRESS TO INCREASE THE COST OF TRICARE FOR
11 LIFE BENEFITS FOR RECIPIENTS OF THESE BENEFITS.
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14 **Subtitle**

15 TO DECLARE THAT THE ARKANSAS HOUSE OF
16 REPRESENTATIVES OPPOSE ANY EFFORT BY
17 PRESIDENT BIDEN AND THE UNITED STATES
18 CONGRESS TO INCREASE THE COST OF TRICARE
19 FOR LIFE BENEFITS FOR RECIPIENTS OF THESE
20 BENEFITS.
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22 WHEREAS, TRICARE for Life is a health insurance program provided by the
23 federal government to active duty and retired military personnel and their
24 family members; and
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26 WHEREAS, TRICARE for Life typically covers Medicare cost-sharing
27 deductibles, coinsurances, and copayments; and
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29 WHEREAS, TRICARE for Life may pay when services are not covered by
30 Medicare or when a beneficiary has used up the Medicare benefits; and
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32 WHEREAS, currently TRICARE for Life beneficiaries are not required to
33 pay an enrollment fee; and
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35 WHEREAS, A biennial report from the Congressional Budget Office takes
36 aim at TRICARE for Life offering two (2) proposals among its options to cut



1 the deficit that would significantly increase costs for seniors using the
2 TRICARE for Life benefit; and

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4 WHEREAS, under the proposals, the enrollment fees would be indexed to
5 grow at the same rate as average Medicare costs in later years,

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7 WHEREAS, the Congressional Budget Office acknowledges these plans would
8 discourage retirees from using their earned health care benefit and an
9 enrollment fee would result in some beneficiaries foregoing TRICARE for Life
10 and switching to other Medicare supplemental plans; and

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12 WHEREAS, the Congressional Budget Office notes the out-of-pocket cost
13 plan would reduce Medicare spending because higher costs would lead
14 beneficiaries to use fewer medical services, even though seniors in the
15 military health system already have slightly lower health care utilization
16 than their civilian counterparts,

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18 NOW THEREFORE,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

21
22 THAT the House of Representatives oppose any effort by President Biden
23 and the United State Congress to increase the cost of TRICARE for Life
24 benefits for the recipients of these benefits.