

-Tony Burke – Sioux Falls

Bill Number: HJR5001 A JOINT RESOLUTION, Proposing and submitting to the voters at the next general election an amendment to the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, conditioning the requirement of expanded Medicaid on the level of federal medical assistance. (Introduced)

On behalf of the American Heart Association, please accept this testimony in opposition of HJR 5001.

Voters in South Dakota approved a ballot measure on November 8, 2022, which added Medicaid expansion to the state constitution. Language in the approved measure prohibits the imposition of any additional burdens or restrictions on eligibility or enrollment for the expansion population. For the second time in two years, there is an effort to erode the will of the voters to provide healthcare coverage to the working poor, and prospectively create a coverage gap once again if the Federal Government changes its level of responsibility.

On behalf of all the heart and stroke survivors in South Dakota, from our hearts to yours, we ask you to please vote this down.

Thank you! Tony Burke, American Heart Association, ND/SD/NE, Dallas TX