

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 4 of the Second Extraordinary Session

By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION to commend the Tennessee Department of Health upon its timely and full consideration of the proposed Certificate of Public Advantage to merge Mountain States Health Alliance and Wellmont Health System.

WHEREAS, Mountain States Health Alliance is a not-for-profit health care organization based in Johnson City that operates a family of thirteen hospitals serving a twenty-nine-county, four-state region; and

WHEREAS, Wellmont Health System operates six hospitals and numerous outpatient care sites, serving communities in Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Mountain States Health Alliance and Wellmont Health System have agreed to explore the creation of an integrated and locally governed health system that would merge the two companies and create an exciting future for health care in the region; and

WHEREAS, the proposed merger could save \$25 million per year in health costs while minimizing job cuts; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Virginia Health Authority has voted to approve the application for the merger; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Health has held two hearings about the proposed merger and has scheduled three additional hearings; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commend the Department of Health upon its timely and full consideration of the proposed Certificate of Public Advantage to merge Mountain Systems Health Alliance and Wellmont Health System.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Health.