

## CHAPTER 258

## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE STUDY

S. J. R. 12

A JOINT RESOLUTION to provide for an interim study of the causes and effects of and solutions to the unavailability and high cost of malpractice insurance to health care providers and to provide for an appropriation.

WHEREAS, the general assembly finds that a critical situation exists with respect to the availability and cost of medical malpractice insurance to certain health care providers; and

WHEREAS, the general assembly finds that unavailability or high cost of medical malpractice insurance has the effect of reducing the number of health care providers practicing in this state; and

WHEREAS, the general assembly finds that a reduction in the number of health care providers in this state would be detrimental to the health and welfare of the people of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, measures have been proposed to the general assembly as solutions to the high cost or unavailability of medical malpractice insurance; and

WHEREAS, meaningful consideration cannot be given these measures without a reliable in-depth study of the causes and effects of the situation, NOW THEREFORE,

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

1 SECTION 1. The legislative council is directed to create a study  
2 committee which shall include members of the appropriate standing  
3 committees of the Senate and House of Representatives representing  
4 both political parties, which committee shall conduct during the  
5 1975-76 legislative interim a comprehensive study of the causes and  
6 effects of and solutions to the high cost and unavailability of mal-  
7 practice insurance to licensed health care providers.

8 The study committee shall retain, if necessary, consultants and as-  
9 sistants to accomplish the study. Nonlegislative consultants and as-  
10 sistants may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses and may receive  
11 a per diem of forty dollars for each day in actual attendance with  
12 the committee upon approval of the legislative council.

13 The study committee shall prepare and submit a report to the leg-  
14 islative council and to the general assembly at the conclusion of the  
15 interim, which shall be accompanied by legislative bill drafts de-  
16 signed to carry out any recommendations of the committee.

1 SEC. 2. There is appropriated to the legislative council for the  
2 use of the study committee created by this Act during the fiscal year  
3 beginning July 1, 1975 and ending June 30, 1976 the sum of twenty-  
4 five thousand (25,000) dollars, or so much thereof as is necessary, to  
5 accomplish the purposes of this Act. Unencumbered funds remaining  
6 as of June 30, 1976 shall revert to the general fund of the state on  
7 August 31, 1976.

Approved June 16, 1975