

DRAFT Improved Medicare for All Resolution
August 18, 2020

(The draft resolution contains a lengthy list of Whereas clauses to allow the champion on the city council to edit, delete or add in order for the resolution to best send the message that is desired by the city council)

Resolution XXXX

**A Resolution of the City Council of _____ Regarding Support for
Improved Medicare for All.**

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically demonstrated the failings of our current patchwork of health care programs serving _____ and the nation; and

WHEREAS, all _____ residents should have access to a state or national not-for-profit health care financing system that pays for comprehensive, high quality, affordable health care; and

WHEREAS, an ultimate solution to the problem will be at the national level, the current pain inflicted by our dysfunctional health care system is very local and directly impacting _____ residents; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has clearly demonstrated that affordable access to high quality health care should not be tied to employment; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has highlighted the fact that institutional racial bias built into our society, including our patchwork of health care programs, significantly contributes to people of color having poorer access to health care and poorer health outcomes.

WHEREAS, the pandemic has demonstrated the critical roles people of all income levels provide to keep our economy functioning properly and that everyone must have access to high quality, affordable health care to continue providing these services; and

WHEREAS, many people delay seeking needed health care due to an inability to pay, leading to a sicker and poorer population in the long run; and

WHEREAS, the high cost of health care is a significant factor in the inability of _____ residents to find affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, _____ residents should not have to worry about loss of affordable health care when making decisions about marriage or divorce or about providing care for elderly, sick or young family members; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive national health care system should negotiate the prices for all prescription drugs as is done in all other developed countries; and

WHEREAS, the cost and complexity of providing employee health care is a significant issue each year for the City of _____, limiting our ability to provide other necessary services to residents; and

WHEREAS, many small businesses in _____ struggle to attract and retain employees because employees are often looking for jobs with health care benefits; and

WHEREAS, the _____ economy would benefit when entrepreneurs have the freedom to pursue their vision without being constrained by the potential loss of health care for themselves and their family members if they leave existing employment; and

WHEREAS, a not-for-profit, single payer health care system should obtain revenues from a variety of taxes which, in combination, are progressive in nature and result in everyone paying to fund health care based on their ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, the combination of taxes chosen to fund a state or national health care system should reduce the current heavy reliance on employee and employer payroll contributions and seek other sources of revenue in order to reduce the burden on employers; and

WHEREAS, a state or national universal health care financing system should set compensation for licensed health care providers at levels that result in net income that will attract and retain necessary health care professionals; and

WHEREAS, the _____ City Council believes a comprehensive Improved Medicare for All model for financing health care can address all the criteria and concerns listed above; and

WHEREAS, the *Health Care Emergency Guarantee Act* would guarantee all residents full coverage for medically necessary health care without copays, deductibles, or other out-of-pocket costs from now until an FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine is widely available to the public; and

WHEREAS, the *Medicare for All Act of 2019* would improve existing Medicare and provide similarly expanded coverage in perpetuity.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED.

1. That the _____ City Council hereby urges the Governor of Colorado, our state legislators and our congressional representatives to support legislation to provide universal, comprehensive, affordable health care with zero cost-sharing for patients during this crisis, such as the *Health Care Emergency Guarantee Act*, and beyond, such as the *Medicare for All Act of 2019* and calls on our federal legislators to work toward the immediate enactment of these, or substantially similar pieces of legislation, to ensure appropriate health care coverage for all residents of the United States.
2. That a copy of this resolution should be sent by the Mayor of _____ to the Governor of Colorado, our state legislators and our federal elected representatives.

Adopted by the _____ City Council on this ____ day of _____, 2020.

Signed by

Attest