

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-67

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUREKA IN SUPPORT OF SINGLE PAYER BILLS FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

WHEREAS, recent polls show that 69% of Californians support single-payer health care with every person in Eureka deserving high quality health care, both The California Guaranteed Health Care for All Act (“CalCare”), AB 1400 and the federal Improved Medicare for All Bill, HR 1976, would establish state or nation-wide comprehensive, universal, single-payer health care with a cost control system for the benefit of all residents of the state and specifically for the City of Eureka; and

WHEREAS, both the state and federal legislation would guarantee that all residents of Eureka will be fully covered for health care without copays, deductibles, or other out-of-pocket costs saving millions now spent on premiums that often provide inadequate health insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, both legislative acts would slash bureaucracy, protect the doctor/patient relationship and assure patients a free choice of doctors and hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the ever-increasing costs of health care, which has been further elevated due to the pandemic may challenge our already strapped state and municipal budgets; and

WHEREAS, the number of Californians before the Covid-19 pandemic without health insurance was 2.7 million with 12 million Californians under insured despite important gains made since the implementation of the Affordable Care Act; and

WHEREAS, the current Covid-19 pandemic has led to record levels of unemployment, loss of employer sponsored health insurance, a severely strained health care system, widespread illness, disproportionately impacting the poor and communities of color and has taken a profound toll on every community’s mental health, all of which is placing significant demands on our healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, the Covid-19 pandemic further exposed the dangers of our fragmented, profit driven health care system, which leads many Californians to delay seeking needed health care due to an inability to pay, leading to a sicker and poorer population in the long run while such population is significantly more likely to develop serious illness if exposed to diseases like Covid-19 and will subsequently face higher mortality rates; and

WHEREAS, by eliminating administrative waste and corporate health insurance and pharmaceutical profits, both CalCare and Improved Medicare for All would guarantee care without charge at the point of service for all California and/or national residents providing necessary medical care including prescription drugs; hospital, surgical, and outpatient services; primary and preventive care; emergency services; reproductive care; dental and vision care; and long-term care;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Eureka, that the City of Eureka expresses its enthusiastic support for the bills, CalCare, AB 1400 and Medicare for All HR 1976, and calls upon our state and federal legislators to work toward their immediate enactment.

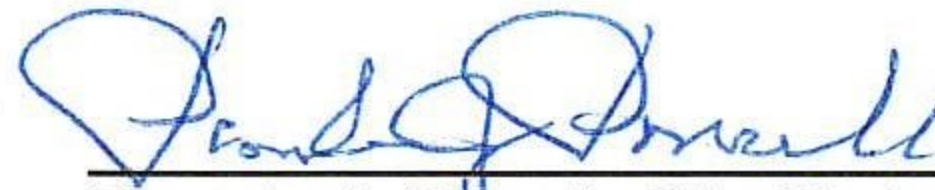
PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Eureka in the County of Humboldt, State of California, on the 16th day of November, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS CASTELLANO, MOULTON, ARROYO, BAUER,
BERGEL
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS




Susan Seaman, Mayor of the City of Eureka

Attest:




Pamela J. Powell, City Clerk

Approved as to Administration:



Miles Slattery, City Manager

Approved as to form:



Robert N. Black, City Attorney