

RESOLUTION NO. 22-056

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, URGING CONGRESS TO RE-INTRODUCE AND ENACT HR 1976 "MEDICARE FOR ALL ACT OF 2021"; AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION TO MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, in 2019, more than 2.78 million people in Florida lacked health insurance at some point, and Florida had the fifth-highest rate of uninsured residents in the nation, with 13.2% of the state's population uninsured, according to the U.S. Census Bureau; and

WHEREAS, nearly 30 million Americans continue to have no health insurance and another 40 million Americans remain underinsured; and

WHEREAS, the United States spends more on healthcare than any other industrialized country, and yet, has worse outcomes in a number of health indicators including life expectancy and infant mortality; and

WHEREAS, every person in the City of Key West, the State of Florida, and the United States deserves high quality health care; and

WHEREAS, the rising costs of health care have made it more difficult for the City's most vulnerable residents, including low-income seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, families with children and those experiencing homelessness, and have added challenges to local government and to small businesses, which keep our communities thriving; and

WHEREAS, HR 1976, the Medicare for All Act of 2021, would provide national health insurance for every person in the United States for all necessary medical care including prescription drugs, hospital services, surgical services, primary care, preventative care, emergency services, reproductive care, dental care, vision care, and long-term care; and

WHEREAS, the Medicare for All Act of 2021 would provide coverage without copays, deductibles or other out-of-pocket costs, and would slash the costs of administration, protect the doctor patient relationship and assure patients a free choice of doctors; and

WHEREAS, the quality of life for residents of the City, especially the City's most vulnerable residents, would improve because they would be able to get the ongoing care they need, instead of waiting until a medical emergency upends their life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Commission expresses its support for HR 1976, the Medicare for All Act of 2021 and requests that Congress make a deliberative and thorough effort to pass the Medicare for All Act of 2021, as well as subsequent legislation to provide care for all Americans.

Section 2: That the City Clerk is hereby authorized to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to President Joseph R. Biden, Vice President Kamala D. Harris, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, President Pro Tem of the Senate Patrick J. Leahy, Senator Marco Rubio, Senator Rick Scott, and Representative Carlos Jimenez.

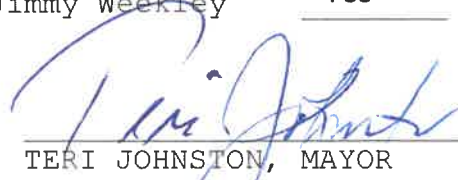
Section 3: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this 15th day of February, 2022.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on 16th day of February, 2022.

Filed with the Clerk on February 16, 2022.

Mayor Teri Johnston	<u>Yes</u>
Vice Mayor Sam Kaufman	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Gregory Davila	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Clayton Lopez	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	<u>Absent</u>
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	<u>Yes</u>



TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



KERI O'BRIEN, SENIOR DEPUTY CITY CLERK