

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF DENTON ENDORSING THE MEDICARE FOR ALL ACT OF 2021; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Medicare for All would represent real freedom in healthcare, including but not limited to the Freedoms of health Justice:

1. FREEDOM to obtain medically necessary health care regardless of personal financial means, without additional burden.
2. FREEDOM to obtain said care regardless of employment status.
3. FREEDOM to receive comprehensive care and treatment including primary and preventative care, medical, dental, mental health, prescription drugs, addiction treatment, hearing and eye care, women’s health and pediatrics, hospitalization, surgery, rehabilitation, long-term care, and related medically necessary products and services.
4. FREEDOM to choose doctors and other providers regardless of “networks” or other fabricated obstacles restricting access to care.
5. FREEDOM to obtain necessary care free of charge at the point of service with no bills, medical debt, or fear of resulting financial distress.
6. FREEDOM from the need to self-ration medically necessary care and prescription drugs.
7. FREEDOM to obtain care without excessive paperwork. This can mean simply show a card, get treated, and go home.
8. FREEDOM from health insecurity such as fear and stress stemming from uncertainty about qualifying for needed care and paying for it.; and

WHEREAS, Texas has one of the highest rates of insurance in the nation, including uninsured children, with COVID-19 causing over 600,000 Texans to lose access to healthcare during a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the current COVID-19 pandemic has severely strained the health care system at a time when Texas was already struggling to keep medical facilities open, especially in rural communities; and

WHEREAS, Texas suffers from some of the worst racial health disparities in the nation, clearly demonstrated by both the maternal and neonatal mortality rates amongst Black Texans and the unequal distribution of morbidity and mortality during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in order to equitably and effectively address the health care burden of the COVID-19 crisis, we must urge the United States Congress or the Texas Legislature to expand health insurance coverage to provide comprehensive coverage to every resident of the United States without any cost-sharing; and

WHEREAS, the Medicare for All Act of 2021 (HR 1976) would provide such coverage in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it in the public's best interest to endorse the Medicare for All Act of 2021; NOW THEREFORE,

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DENTON HEREBY RESOLVES:

SECTION 1. The findings and recitation contained in the preamble of this Resolution are incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. The City of Denton hereby endorses and urges legislation to provide universal, comprehensive health care coverage with zero cost-sharing for patients by enacting the Medicare for All Act of 2021 to ensure appropriate health care coverage for all residents of the United States during this ongoing crisis, the crisis recovery period, and beyond.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

The motion to approve this ordinance was made by _____ and seconded by _____, the ordinance was passed and approved by the following vote [____ - ____]:

	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mayor Gerard Hudspeth:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vicki Byrd, District 1:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Brian Beck, District 2:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Jesse Davis, District 3:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alison Maguire, District 4:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Brandon McGee, At Large Place 5:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Chris Watts, At Large Place 6:	_____	_____	_____	_____

PASSED AND APPROVED this the _____ day of _____, 2021.

GERARD HUDSPETH, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ROSA RIOS, CITY SECRETARY

BY: _____

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:
MACK REINWAND, CITY ATTORNEY

BY: _____