

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MEDICARE FOR ALL

Whereas, high quality health care is a human right for every person in Stamford; and

Whereas, the \$3.5 trillion U.S. multi-payer system is the most expensive in the world, yet has left nearly 30 million Americans without health insurance and over 40 million underinsured; and

Whereas, the rising costs of health care are straining both our limited municipal budget and the small businesses which are integral to our community's well-being; and

Whereas, H.R. 1979 the Medicare for All Act of 2021 would provide universal single-payer health insurance for every person in the United States for all 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; and

Whereas, Medicare for All would provide coverage without copays, deductibles or other out-of-pocket costs, and would slash bureaucracy, protect the doctor-patient relationship, and assure patients an unrestricted choice of doctors; and

Whereas, adoption of H.R. 1979 the Medicare for All Act of 2021 would guarantee that all residents of Stamford will be fully covered for health care and would save a fortune in taxpayer dollars now spent on ever-rising premiums that provide inadequate health insurance coverage; and

Whereas, the quality of life for the residents of Stamford will vastly improve because they would be able to get the ongoing care they need, instead of waiting until they have a medical emergency that could upend their lives as well as further burden local resources;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Stamford Board of Representatives enthusiastically supports Medicare for All and calls on our federal legislators to work toward enactment of H.R. 1979 the Medicare for All Act of 2021, that will assure appropriate and efficient health care for all residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Stamford Board of Representatives expresses its enthusiastic support for a state-level single payer system in Connecticut, H.B. 5340, similar to legislation which already exists in neighboring states — Rhode Island (H.5611 Comprehensive Health Insurance Program), Massachusetts (H.1194 An Act Establishing Medicare for All in Massachusetts) and New York (A.5248 New York Health Act) — and calls on our state legislators to work toward the immediate introduction of similar legislation and the enactment of such legislation to guarantee healthcare to all Connecticut residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, when enacted, be delivered to members of the Connecticut congressional delegation, U.S. Representative Jim Himes, U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, and U.S. Senator Chris Murphy, as well as Stamford's delegation to the Connecticut legislature.