

**TOWN OF HAMDEN
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
MEDICAL FOR ALL**

Presented by: _____

WHEREAS, every person in Hamden deserves high quality health care; and

WHEREAS, even in the wake of the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the mobilization of healthcare resources during the pandemic access to healthcare remains a challenge to the thirty million Americans without health insurance and the forty million of our fellow citizens who remain underinsured; and,

WHEREAS, on the municipal level, employee health insurance costs represent a significant portion of Hamden’s municipal budget and a growing burden to taxpayers; 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, United States Representatives Pramila Jayapal and Debbie Dingell have introduced a bill to establish an improved Medicare for All national health insurance program (“Medicare for All Act”) in the House of Representatives and United States Senator Bernie Sanders has sponsored a bill to establish a national health insurance program that is administered by HHS (“Medicare for All Act of 2022”) (both called “Medicare for All”); and,

WHEREAS, Medicare for All would provide federally-funded 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 to Hamden residents and municipal employees, without premium costs for the town government or other local employers; and,

WHEREAS, Medicare for All would provide the same benefits to retired Hamden employees, with savings in other post-employment benefits (OPEB) for the municipal budget; and,

WHEREAS, recent Kaiser Family Foundation polling shows that an overwhelming majority of Americans support a greater role for the federal government in providing health insurance and 56% of Americans support a national Medicare for All plan; and,

WHEREAS, the quality of life for the residents of Hamden would vastly improve under Medicare for All because they would be able to obtain necessary ongoing and preventive care without concern for medical debt or other financial strain; and,

WHEREAS, savings to the municipal budget under Medicare for All would free up funds for both much-needed tax relief for Hamden residents and businesses and further investment in town-provided infrastructure and services; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 crisis and its lingering impact in Hamden and in other communities in Connecticut and throughout the United States has demonstrated and underscored the need for a universal healthcare system in our nation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hamden Legislative Council enthusiastically supports Medicare for All (as recently sponsored by the U.S. Representative Jayapal and U.S. Senator Sanders-sponsored HR. 1976 and S. 4204) and any other single-payer legislation, and calls on our federal legislators to work toward its immediate enactment, assuring appropriate and efficient health care for all residents of the United States.

Adopted by the Legislative Council at its meeting held on _____, 2022.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Susan Gruen
Town Attorney

Dominique Baez, President
Legislative Council

Kim Renta, Clerk
Legislative Council

APPROVED:

Lauren Garrett
Mayor

Date: _____