



Proclamation

WHEREAS every person in Santa Rosa deserves high-quality healthcare, and

WHEREAS the ever-increasing costs of healthcare, which are further elevated due to the pandemic, challenge already strapped municipal budgets, and

WHEREAS the pandemic has led to record levels of unemployment and the loss of employer-sponsored health insurance—showing the folly of tying health insurance to employment, and

WHEREAS the vast majority of households and small businesses in Santa Rosa would save money under a single-payer healthcare system and physicians would be able to focus on efficiently providing the best care possible for all residents, and

WHEREAS the city of Santa Rosa spends millions annually on health insurance for current employees and retirees—much of which could be redirected to other municipal priorities if those insurance costs were covered under a federal or state single-payer system, and

WHEREAS single-payer initiatives at the state and federal level, such as the federal Medicare for All Act of 2021 (HR 1976), would provide health insurance that covers 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 federal and state legislation to enact single-payer universal healthcare would guarantee that all residents of Santa Rosa will be fully covered for healthcare without co-pays, deductibles, or other out-of-pocket costs, and would save millions in taxpayer dollars now spent on premiums that often provide inadequate health insurance coverage for government employees, then

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, I, Chris Rogers, Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby urge the U.S. Congress and the California State legislature to pass legislation to create a single-payer system that will provide all residents with universal, comprehensive, and equitable health coverage.



Mayor Chris Rogers
December 13, 2022