

A Resolution of the Larimer County Board of Commissioners Supporting Improved Medicare for All as the State or National Health Care System

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically demonstrated the inadequacies of our current patchwork of health care programs serving Larimer County and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic “temporary relief” measures provided more access to health care and will be ending May 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has clearly demonstrated that access to health care should not be tied to employment; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has especially accentuated financial challenges for small, independent rural hospitals, placing many at risk of becoming unsustainable; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has highlighted the systemic racial bias present in our healthcare system that contributes to people of color having deficient access to health care and poorer health outcomes.

WHEREAS, the pandemic has demonstrated the critical roles people of all income levels contribute to keep our economy functioning properly and that everyone must have access to high quality, affordable health care to continue providing these services; and

WHEREAS, the high cost of healthcare is a significant factor in the inability of many Larimer County residents to find affordable housing and affordable childcare; and

WHEREAS, all Larimer County residents should have access to a state or national not-for-profit, single payer, health care financing system that pays for comprehensive, high quality, affordable health care, including dental, vision, hearing and behavioral health services; and

WHEREAS, Larimer County residents should not have to worry about loss of affordable health care when making decisions about marriage or divorce or about providing care for older, sick or young family members; and

WHEREAS, patients should have free access to qualified providers without the limitations of In-Network and Out-of-Network structures.

Adopted by the Larimer County, Colorado Commissioners on this 23rd day of May, 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO

BY: Jody Shaddock-McNally

Chair

ATTEST:

Jessa Boatsy

Deputy Clerk