

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2023

EXPRESSING the support of the Mayor and Council for the Medicare For All Act of 2023 (H.R. 3421 and S.B. 1655 of 2023) and **EXPRESSING** the support of the Mayor and Council for statewide organization Single Payer Action Network (SPAN)/Health Care for All Ohioans and the Ohio Health Care Act of 2023.

WHEREAS, the United States spends eighteen percent of its gross domestic product (GDP) on health care, twice as much per capita compared to most other wealthy nations that provide universal health care, yet it has the lowest life expectancy and highest maternal mortality rates; and

WHEREAS, the uninsured rate in the City is 8.1 percent, and when compared to White residents, there is a 53 percent higher uninsured rate among Black residents and an 81 percent higher uninsured rate among Hispanic residents in Hamilton County; and

WHEREAS, according to the Cincinnati Health Department, the City has the fourteenth-worst disparity in life expectancy between neighborhoods in the country; and

WHEREAS, infant mortality and cardiovascular disease contribute 2,000 years of premature life lost per year to the disparities, and access to care is critical to eliminating this disparity; and

WHEREAS, the infant mortality rate in Ohio is 6.7 infant deaths per 1000 live births which ranks the tenth highest in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the never-ending rising costs of health care take funding from our state and local government budgets that could be better used to improve the quality of life of our citizens and the economic vitality of our local businesses; and

WHEREAS, almost 200,000 Ohioans will lose Medicaid coverage this year due to the federal government ending the Continuous Enrollment policy put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Ohio House Bill 174, also known as the Ohio Health Care Act of 2023, would provide coverage for all Ohioans without copays, deductibles, or other out-of-pocket costs, and would reduce bureaucracy, protect the doctor-patient relationship, and assure patients a free choice of doctors; and

WHEREAS, the Medicare For All Act of 2023 would create a single-payer national health plan that would establish healthcare as a basic human right and help Americans access the excellent health care system we deserve; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and Council express their support for the Medicare For All Act of 2023 (H.R. 3421 and S.B. 1655 of 2023) and encourage our federal legislators to work toward its immediate enactment, assuring appropriate and efficient health care for all residents of the United States.

Section 2. That the Mayor and Council express their support for statewide organization Single Payer Action Network (SPAN)/Health Care for All Ohioans and encourage our state legislators to work toward immediate enactment of the Ohio Health Care Act of 2023, House Bill 174, ensuring appropriate and efficient health care for all Ohio residents.

Section 3. That copies of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council.

Passed: _____, 2023

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Jeff Cramerding and Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney