



Alexandria City Council Adopts Medicare For All Resolution

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Alexandria, Virginia: The seven-member Alexandria City Council has voted to adopt a resolution in support of national, improved Medicare For All at the council's Legislative Meeting on March 12, 2024. Although similar resolutions have been adopted in more than 130 localities in the United States, this is the first Medicare For All Resolution adopted in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The text of the resolution affirms the City of Alexandria's support for a national single-payer healthcare system and urges the United States Congress to adopt comprehensive universal health coverage:

WHEREAS, in order to equitably and effectively address the health care needs in the City of Alexandria, including the additional burden of the COVID-19 crisis, we must urge the United States Congress to expand health insurance coverage to provide every resident of the United States comprehensive health care without any cost-sharing; and

WHEREAS, only comprehensive universal health coverage can assure people that, no matter what health condition is ultimately responsible for their symptoms, or whatever treatment becomes necessary, all residents of the U.S. will be financially protected;

...

The City of Alexandria, Virginia, supports the enactment of federal legislation to provide universal and comprehensive health care for all residents of the United States including the residents of the City of Alexandria. Specifically the Medicare for All Act (H.R. 1976 & S. 4204) and State-Based Universal Health Care Act (H.R. 3775).

The City of Alexandria, Virginia, calls upon the United States Congress to adopt the proposed federal legislation to provide universal, comprehensive health coverage with zero cost-sharing to all people in the United States.

The [campaign to pass the Alexandria Medicare For All resolution](#) was led by a coalition of volunteers from Grassroots Alexandria, Democratic Socialists of America Northern Virginia Branch, Our Revolution Northern Virginia, and Tenants and Workers United. The volunteers gathered more than 300 petition signatures in support of the resolution at various locations around the city. The [Medicare For All Resolutions initiative](#) was started by Public Citizen and is supported by multiple progressive organizations across the country.

Speaking of this result, Jonathan Krall of Grassroots Alexandria stated "The arc of history 'bends towards justice' because people are out there pushing it. We are proud of this coalition and its accomplishments."

"Our Revolution Northern Virginia was pleased to participate in the coalition of organizations who brought this issue forward to the Alexandria City Council and applauds their decision to pass a resolution in support of national, improved Medicare for All that affirms the City of Alexandria's backing for a national single-payer healthcare system that will best and most economically serve the healthcare needs of their constituents," said Sandra J. Klassen, Our Revolution Northern Virginia Chair.

Evelin Urrutia, Executive Director of Tenants and Workers United, states, "We hope this symbolic resolution from the City Council is a step in the right direction as our working class families of color in the City continue to face many barriers to accessing healthcare."

"This resolution in Alexandria, just like the resolutions passed in other localities across the country, demonstrates the growing nationwide support at the grassroots level for universal healthcare," said Scott Gruber, volunteer with the Democratic Socialists of America Northern Virginia Branch.

Although Medicare For All is a federal legislative proposal, the negative impacts of the for-profit US healthcare system are felt locally as cities and counties are forced to fund health insurance for public employees, and as public services are strained by the impact of medical bankruptcy, untreated chronic illness, and premature deaths on local households. A recent study by researchers at the Yale School of Public Health estimated that [more than 338,000 lives would have been saved during the COVID-19 pandemic](#) if the United States had a single-payer healthcare system, and that national, improved Medicare For All would save more than \$450 billion per year.

For more information on the Alexandria Medicare For All Resolution campaign and the full text of the resolution, please visit <https://linktr.ee/AlexandriaM4A>.

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