

**RESOLUTION NO. 01-2024 OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF MEDICARE FOR ALL; REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, high quality health care is a human right for every person in the City of Lake Worth Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. multi-payer healthcare system, which costs \$3.5 trillion annually, is the most expensive in the world, yet has left nearly 30 million Americans without health insurance and over 40 million underinsured; and

**WHEREAS**, the rising costs of healthcare are straining both our limited municipal budget and the small businesses which are integral to our community's well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, recent national polls show that a majority of Americans support Medicare for All; and

**WHEREAS**, Medicare for All would cost less than our current system, saving around 68,000 lives a year while reducing U.S. health care spending by around 13%, or \$450 billion a year; and

**WHEREAS**, H.R. 3421, the Medicare for All Act of 2023, and subsequent legislation in the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress and after, would provide universal single-payer 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; long-term care; and mental health care; and

**WHEREAS**, Medicare for All would provide coverage without copays, deductibles or other out-of-pocket costs and would slash bureaucracy, protect the doctor-patient relationship, and assure patients an unrestricted choice of doctors; and

**WHEREAS**, adoption of H.R. 3421, the Medicare for All Act of 2023, and subsequent legislation in the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress and after, would enable all residents of the City of Lake Worth Beach to be fully covered for health care, and would provide significant savings in taxpayer dollars which are currently spent on ever-rising premiums that provide inadequate health insurance coverage; and

**WHEREAS**, the quality of life for the residents of the City of Lake Worth Beach will vastly improve because they would be able to get the ongoing care they need, instead of waiting until they have a medical emergency that could upend their lives and further burden local resources;

**WHEREAS**, unbundling healthcare from employment and ensuring high-quality healthcare for all would begin to address systemic inequities that have disproportionately

impacted the health of the most vulnerable communities including, and not limited to, the unhoused, low-income, Black, Brown, Indigenous, and other People of Color; and

**WHEREAS**, addressing people’s long-term health needs would strengthen the workforce across all employment, industries, and sectors; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH, FLORIDA, that:

**SECTION 1.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated into this resolution as true and correct statements.

**SECTION 2:** The City Commission of the City of Lake Worth Beach enthusiastically supports Medicare for All and calls on our federal legislators to work toward enactment of H.R. 3421, the Medicare for All Act of 2023, and all subsequent legislation in the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress and after, that will assure appropriate and efficient health care for all residents beyond the pandemic.

**SECTION 3:** That the Lake Worth Beach City Commission expresses its enthusiastic support for a state-level single-payer program in Florida, such as the *Healthy Florida Act* legislation that had been introduced before, and calls on our state legislators to work toward the immediate introduction in the Florida House of similar legislation and the enactment of such legislation to guarantee healthcare to all Florida residents.

**SECTION 4.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage.

The passage of this resolution was moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

- Mayor Betty Resch
- Vice Mayor Christopher McVoy
- Commissioner Sarah Malega
- Commissioner Kimberly Stokes
- Commissioner Reinaldo Diaz

The Mayor thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

LAKE WORTH BEACH CITY COMMISSION

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Betty Resch, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Ann Coyne, MMC, City Clerk