

RESOLUTION

No. 2007-321

By Commissioner Bell and Co-sponsored by Commissioner Varga

WHEREAS, the United States has the most expensive health care system in the world in terms of absolute costs, per capita costs, and percentage of gross domestic product; and

WHEREAS, despite being first in spending, the World Health Organization has ranked the United States 37th among all nations in terms of meeting the needs of its people; and

WHEREAS, over 43 million Americans, including 10 million children, live daily without health care coverage; and

WHEREAS, health care costs continue to increase, jeopardizing the health security of working families and small businesses; and

WHEREAS, the current health care system too often puts the bottom line ahead of patient care and threatens safety net providers who treat the uninsured and poorly insured; and

WHEREAS, Wayne County is the largest County in the State of Michigan with approximately 2 million residents; and

WHEREAS, approximately 280,000 Wayne County residents are uninsured and approximately 700,000 are under insured; and

WHEREAS, Congressman John Conyers has introduced H.R. 676, the United States Nation Health Insurance Act, also known as the Expanded and Improved Medicare For All Act; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 676 would cover every person in the U.S. for all necessary medical care including prescription drugs; hospital, surgical, outpatient services; primary and preventive care; emergency services; dental and mental health; physical therapy; vision care and long term care among others, without deductibles; and

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WHEREAS, the goal of H.R. 676 is to ensure that all Americans have access, guaranteed by law, to the highest quality and most cost effective health care services regardless of their employment, income, or health care status; and

WHEREAS, with the passage of H.R. 676 Wayne County can realize annual savings of over \$90,000,000 as a result of a reduction of the 25% currently paid by Wayne County for staff payroll health benefits to approximately 4.7%;

Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Commission this 7th day of June, 2007 that we hereby support Congressman Conyers' legislation, HR 676, "Expanded and Improved Medicare for All", and will work to educate our community on the importance of this legislation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Jennifer Granholm, Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow, Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick, Congressman John D. Dingell, Congressman John Conyers, Jr., Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, and President George W. Bush.

(2007-66-029)