RESOLUTION NO. 40-17

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 562 (LARA & ATKINS), HEALTHY CALIFORNIA ACT, THAT WOULD ESTABLISH A COMPREHENSIVE UNIVERSAL SINGLE-PAYER HEALTH CARE COVERAGE PROGRAM AND A HEALTH CARE COST CONTROL SYSTEM FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL RESIDENTS OF THE STATE

WHEREAS, every Californian should have a right to health care; and

WHEREAS, while the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) brought many improvements in health care and health care coverage, it still leaves many Californians without coverage or with inadequate coverage; and

WHEREAS, on his first day in office, President Trump signed an executive order giving federal agencies broad powers to dismantle regulations created under the PPACA; and the executive order stated that the Trump Administration’s official policy is “to seek the prompt repeal” of the PPACA; and

WHEREAS, Californians, as individuals, employers, and taxpayers have experienced a rise in the cost of health care and health care coverage in recent years, including rising premiums, deductibles, and copays, as well as restricted provider networks and high out-of-network charges; and

WHEREAS, businesses have also experienced increases in the costs of health care benefits for their employees, and many employers are shifting a larger share of the cost of coverage to their employees or dropping coverage entirely; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 562 (SB 562) would create a “comprehensive universal single-payer health care coverage program and a health care cost control system” for the benefit of all 38 million Californians – including undocumented residents;

WHEREAS, SB 562 would consistently cover all Californians, because coverage is based on residency, not a person’s changing income or employment status; and

WHEREAS, SB 562 would eliminate out of control co-pays and high deductibles, and reduce costs by cutting out insurance company waste and duplication; and

WHEREAS, SB 562 would give patients the freedom to choose their doctor, and would manage prescription drug costs; and

WHEREAS, SB 562 is sponsored by the California Nurses Association and supported by the Healthy California a broad grassroots campaign comprised of four million Californians and over 150 organizations representing community, labor, immigrant rights, business, senior, healthcare providers and advocates; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond City Council’s endorsement of SB 562 is consistent with our past support for other Single Payer bills presented in the legislature, as well as the Health and Wellness Element of our General Plan and our Richmond Health in All Policies Program;

WHEREAS, 19.4% of Richmond residents under the age of 65 do not have health coverage.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Richmond City Council’s endorsement of SB 562 is consistent with our past support for other Single Payer bills presented in the legislature, as well as the Health and Wellness Element of our General Plan and our Richmond Health in All Policies Program;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Richmond City Council directs staff to send a copy of this resolution along with a cover letter to our state legislators, Assemblymember Tony Thurmond and State Senator Nancy Skinner, urging them to stand with the people of California in support of this important bill.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held April 18, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, McLaughlin, Myrick, Willis, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor Butt.

NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: None.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

TOM BUTT
Mayor

Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
City Attorney

State of California )
County of Contra Costa : ss.
City of Richmond )

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of Resolution No. 40-17, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on April 18, 2017.

Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond

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