

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles, with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, AB 1400 (Kalra), introduced on February 19, 2021, would establish a single payer health care system called the California Guaranteed Health Care for All program (CalCare) to cover all Californians; and

WHEREAS, despite gains made with the Affordable Care Act, 2.7 million Californians remain uninsured while another 12 million, comprising one-third of Californians with medical insurance, cannot afford their insurance co-pays or deductibles so are underinsured, and 5.2 million Californians lack dental insurance; and

WHEREAS, the COVID pandemic has exposed the instability and unsustainability of the current profit driven health system, with historic unemployment forcing many Californians to lose their employer sponsored health insurance at the same time hospitals have laid off thousands of doctors and nurses; and

WHEREAS, even after COVID, inadequate access to health care will increase preventable disease, erode trust in the medical establishment, and magnify trauma and mortality in the event of another public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, AB 1400 (CalCare) would enshrine health care as a human right by guaranteeing comprehensive, lifetime, high-quality care to all California residents, and establish a health care cost control system; and

WHEREAS, CalCare would provide every California resident freedom in their choice of providers and guarantee health care free at the point of service for all necessary medical care including prescription drugs; hospital, surgical, and outpatient services; primary and preventive care; emergency services; reproductive care; hearing, dental and vision care; and long-term care; and

WHEREAS, CalCare would save millions in taxpayer dollars now spent on premiums and administrative bureaucracy that provide often inadequate coverage for government employees, and would ease the burden on municipal resources for handling the emergency needs of uninsured residents; and

WHEREAS, federal policy empowers states, as laboratories of democracy, to use Affordable Care Act innovation waivers to develop locally tailored approaches to health coverage, including by removing barriers to states that seek to implement universal single-payer approaches;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1400 (Kalra), which would create the California

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Guaranteed Health Care for All program, or CalCare, to provide comprehensive universal single-payer health care coverage and a health care cost control system for the benefit of all residents of the state.

PRESENTED BY:



MIKE BONIN
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:

