



Agenda Item A.10
CONSENT CALENDAR
Meeting Date: November 5, 2019

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Kristy Schmidt, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution Supporting Medicare for All Act of 2019

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider adoption of Resolution 19-__ entitled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Goleta, California, Supporting H.R. 1384, Medicare for all Act of 2019."

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal introduced Medicare for All Act of 2019 (H.R. 1384). H.R. 1384 expands the Medicare program to ensure all United States residents have guaranteed access to healthcare and establishes a national health insurance program which provides comprehensive protection against health care costs and health-related services. Upon enactment, the program will be administered by the Department of Health and Human Services.

H.R. 1384 was introduced to the House of Representatives on February 27, 2019. On that same day, the bill was assigned to a committee in the House for review, the committee referred the bill to a subcommittee for further review. On March 13, 2019, the sponsor, Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, made introductory remarks to the House of Representatives on the bill, there have been no actions taken since then.

The purpose of this item is for the City Council to consider adoption of the proposed resolution in support of the Medicare for All Act of 2019. Mayor Perotte and Councilmember Kyriako asked that staff put this item on Council's agenda for consideration.

DISCUSSION:

H.R. 1384 proposes a national health insurance program which would provide health care coverage to all residents. H.R. 1384 would provide:

1. Coverage for all United States residents;
2. Automatic enrollment of individuals upon birth or residency in the United States;

3. Comprehensive health care coverage including all primary care, hospital, and outpatient services, prescription drugs, dental, vision, audiology, women's reproductive health services, maternity and newborn care, long-term services and supports, prescription drugs, mental health, and substance abuse treatment, laboratory and diagnostic services, ambulatory services and more;
4. A full choice of any doctors, hospitals, and other providers;
5. Long-term care services for individuals of all ages living with disabilities;
6. Coverage with no premiums, deductibles, or copays for medical services;
7. Lower prescriptions costs. This legislation would allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices to substantially lower the costs of prescriptions drugs.

In addition, private health insurers and employers may only offer coverage that is supplemental to, and not duplicative of, benefits provided under the program.

Specified federal health programs would terminate upon implementation of H.R. 1384. However, the program does not affect veteran's coverage provided through the Department of Veterans Affairs or Native Americans coverage provided by the Indian Health Service.

If enacted, the transition to Medicare for All would occur in two years. One year after the date of enactment, persons over the age of 55 and under the age of 18 would be eligible for the program. Two years after the date of enactment, all people living in the United States would be eligible for the program.

Supporting H.R. 1384 is consistent with the Legislative Platform adopted by the City stating its position on issues it faces including but not limited to health care. The following subsections in Section 4 Community Services of the Legislative Platform support the bill.

- **Section 4 (E)(1)**
Support legislation and grants that provide for the overall wellbeing and physical, mental and emotional health of individuals within the City of Goleta including children, youth, seniors, and persons with disabilities.
- **Section 4 (E)(2)**
Support legislation and grants that provide affordable, quality prenatal care and support child care services and assistance to low-income families.
- **Section 4 (E)(4)**
Support reforms in healthcare policy that addresses prevention, promote health and wellness, and encourages affordability and cost containment.
- **Section 4 (E)(5)**
Support legislation and policies that promote mental health and substance abuse services and make resources available that support and assist members of our community.

Given the strong provisions in support of affordable health care coverage already included in the Legislative Platform, staff believes that the Mayor already has the ability to write letters supporting bills providing for universal health care. A resolution in support of H.R. 1384 is, therefore, not strictly necessary, but it would send a strong uniform message from the Council in support of this bill.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Supporting this bill would not have a fiscal impact.

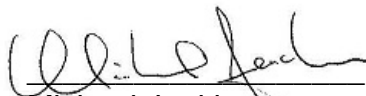
ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council may choose to decline the adoption of this Resolution supporting H.R. 1384.

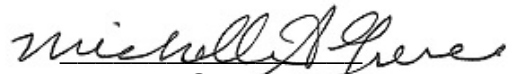
Reviewed By:


Kristine Schmidt
Assistant City Manager

Legal Review By:


Michael Jenkins
City Attorney

Approved By:


Michelle Greene
City Manager

ATTACHMENT:

1. Resolution 19-__ entitled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Goleta, California, Supporting Medicare for All Act of 2019 (H.R.1384)."

ATTACHMENT 1:

Resolution 19-__ entitled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Goleta, California, Supporting Medicare for All Act of 2019 (H.R.1384)."

RESOLUTION NO. 19-____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
GOLETA, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING H.R. 1384, MEDICARE
FOR ALL ACT OF 2019**

WHEREAS, in 2019, Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal introduced Medicare for All Act of 2019 (H.R 1384); and

WHEREAS, H.R. 1384 establishes a national health insurance program which provides comprehensive protection against health care costs and health-related services to all United States residents; and

WHEREAS, the program would provide (1) coverage for all United States residents (2) automatic enrollment of individuals upon birth or residency in the United States (3) comprehensive health care coverage including all primary care, hospital, and outpatient services, prescription drugs, dental, vision, audiology, women's reproductive health services, maternity and newborn care, long-term services and supports, mental health, and substance abuse treatment, laboratory and diagnostic services, ambulatory services and more (4) full choice of any doctors, hospitals, and other providers to all patients (5) long-term care services for individuals of all ages living with disabilities (6) coverage with no premiums, deductibles, or copays for medical services and (7) lower prescriptions costs; and

WHEREAS, if enacted, the transition to Medicare for All would occur in two years. One year after the date of enactment, persons over the age of 55 and under the age of 18 would be eligible for the program. Two years after the date of enactment, all people living in the United States would be eligible for the program; and

WHEREAS, supporting H.R. 1384 is consistent with the City of Goleta's Legislative Platform, specifically Section 4(E)(1), (E)(2), (E)(4), and (E)(5); and

WHEREAS, The City of Goleta calls for the support of H.R 1384 that would establish a national health insurance program benefiting all residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF GOLETA AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1.

The City of Goleta supports H.R 1384, Medicare for All Act of 2019.

SECTION 2.

The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of Goleta, California, this ____ day of _____ 2019.

PAULA PEROTTE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DEBORAH LOPEZ
CITY CLERK

MICHAEL JENKINS
CITY ATTORNEY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA)
CITY OF GOLETA) ss.

I, DEBORAH LOPEZ, City Clerk of the City of Goleta, California, DO
HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution No. 19-____ was duly adopted
by the City Council of the City of Goleta at a regular meeting held on the ____ day
of November, 2019, by the following vote of the Council:

AYES:

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

(SEAL)

DEBORAH LOPEZ
CITY CLERK