



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislative Summary

Res 31867

Record No.: Res 31867

Type: Resolution (Res)

Status: Adopted

Version: 2

Ord. no:

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 02/28/2019

Final Action: 03/12/2019

Title: A RESOLUTION supporting the passage of the Medicare for All Act of 2019.

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk: 3/12/2019

Mayor's Signature: 3/12/2019

Sponsors: González

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments:

Drafter: patrick.wigren@seattle.gov

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published:

Yes

No

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
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1	City Clerk	02/28/2019	sent for review	Council President's Office				
	Action Text:	The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office						
	Notes:							

1	Council President's Office	02/28/2019	sent for review	City Council				
	Action Text:	The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the City Council						
	Notes:							

1	City Council	03/04/2019	referred	City Council				
	Action Text:	The Resolution (Res) was referred. to the City Council						
	Notes:							

1	City Council	03/04/2019	adopted as amended				Pass	
	Action Text:	The Motion carried, the Resolution (Res) was adopted as amended by the following vote, and the President signed the Resolution:						
	Notes:	<u>ACTION 1:</u>						

Motion was made and duly seconded to adopt Resolution 31867.

ACTION 2:

Motion was made by Councilmember González, duly seconded and carried, to amend Resolution 13867, by adding the Mayor's Concurrence on the "Be it Resolved" and signature lines.

ACTION 3:

Motion was made and duly seconded to adopt Resolution 31867 as amended.

In Favor: 8 Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember González, Councilmember Herbold, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Juarez, Councilmember Mosqueda, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Sawant

Opposed: 0

- 2 City Clerk 03/07/2019 submitted for Mayor
Mayor's signature
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was submitted for Mayor's signature. to the Mayor
Notes:
- 2 Mayor 03/12/2019 Signed
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was Signed.
Notes:
- 2 Mayor 03/12/2019 returned City Clerk
- 2 City Clerk 03/12/2019 attested by City Clerk
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was attested by City Clerk.
Notes:
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Text of Legislative File Res 31867

CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION 31867

1
2
3
4 A RESOLUTION supporting the passage of the Medicare for All Act of 2019.

5
6 WHEREAS, the United States paid approximately \$3,500,000,000,000 dollars in total healthcare
7 spending in 2017, an increase of 3.9 percent over the previous year and, at nearly \$11,000
8 per person, the highest healthcare per capita spending rate in the world; and

9 WHEREAS, an estimated one quarter to one-third of healthcare spending is on administrative
10 costs, including generating bills and collecting payments; and

11 WHEREAS, despite spending nearly 19 percent of gross domestic product on healthcare, the
12 United States has worse health outcomes compared with other developed countries,
13 including a maternal mortality rate (26.4 deaths per 100,000 births) up to five times more
14 than other developed countries; a higher infant mortality rate; a lower life expectancy (69
15 years) that has been getting lower for the last two years; and higher rates of obesity,
16 diabetes, heart disease, and preventable deaths; and

17 WHEREAS, although the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has resulted in dramatic increases in
18 health insurance coverage since its passage in 2010, the 14 states not participating in
19 ACA-authorized Medicaid expansion perpetuate non-coverage for low-income
20 individuals; and

21 WHEREAS, too many Americans are one medical crisis away from bankruptcy or are forced to
22 choose between rent and life-saving medical treatments; and

23 WHEREAS, annual spending on prescription drugs, a major cost driver of healthcare, exceeds
24 \$350,000,000,000; and

1 WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee is introducing legislation to provide a public health care option
2 through Washington State’s health benefit exchange; and

3 WHEREAS, in Washington State the uninsured population declined from 14 percent of the
4 state’s population in 2013 to 6.1 percent in 2017, yet an estimated 446,106 individuals
5 remain uninsured, including 118,818 individuals in King County; and

6 WHEREAS, in King County as in the rest of the U.S., American Indians and Native Alaskans,
7 Blacks, Asian and Pacific Islanders, and Hispanics and Latinos are all significantly less
8 likely than whites to have health insurance; and

9 WHEREAS, Public Health Seattle-King County estimates that medical costs are a barrier to
10 seeking medical care for one in seven King County adults; and

11 WHEREAS, the number of uninsured people increased by nearly 700,000 people during the first
12 year of the Trump Administration, the first increase of the uninsured since the passage of
13 the ACA; and

14 WHEREAS, the creation of a single-payer universal Medicare program would cover all
15 American residents, including the estimated 28 million individuals currently uninsured;

16 WHEREAS, the City’s Federal Lobbying Agenda includes support of healthcare for all;

17 WHEREAS, Representative Pramila Jayapal and 107 co-sponsors are advocating for the passage
18 of the Medicare for All Act of 2019, which calls for the comprehensive and total
19 transformation of the U.S. health care system to a single-payer model;

20 WHEREAS, organizations such as Public Citizen, National Nurses United, Center for Popular
21 Democracy, Business Initiative for Health Policy, National Union of Healthcare Workers,
22 American Postal Workers Union, United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, the
23 American Federation of Teachers, Amalgamated Transit Union, American Medical

1 Students Association, Service Employees International Union, and Physicians for a
2 National Health Program, support passage of the Medicare for All Act of 2019; NOW,
3 THEREFORE,

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**
5 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

6 Section 1. It is the duty of the federal government to pass the Medicare for All Act of
7 2019 to:

8 A. Eliminate copays, premiums, deductibles and other cost sharing that prevent residents
9 from getting the healthcare services they need.

10 B. Ensure that every single resident of the United States has access to comprehensive,
11 quality healthcare including all primary care, hospital and outpatient services, prescription drugs,
12 dental, vision, audiology, women's reproductive health services, maternity and newborn care,
13 long-term services and supports, mental health and substance abuse treatment, laboratory and
14 diagnostic services, ambulatory services, and more.

15 C. Ensure that patients have complete freedom to choose their doctors, hospitals, and
16 other providers without worrying about whether a provider is "in-network."

17 D. Ensure that long-term services and supports for persons with disabilities and seniors
18 are fully covered and provided through home and community-based services unless the
19 individual chooses otherwise.

20 E. Eliminate hundreds of billions of dollars in inefficient administrative waste.

21 F. Prevent healthcare corporations from overcharging for the costs of services and
22 profiting off illness and injury.

1 G. Establish global budgets to contain exorbitant costs present in the system today and
2 allow the public to know where our healthcare dollars are being spent.

3 H. Bring down the cost of prescription drugs by allowing the Secretary of Health and
4 Human Services to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies for lower prescription drug costs
5 and to provide a compulsory license to a generic manufacturer if the company will not negotiate
6 in good faith.

7 I. Preserve the ability for veterans to receive their healthcare through the U.S. Department
8 of Veterans Affairs.


9 J. Preserve the ability for American Indians and Native Alaskans to receive their health
10 benefits and services through the Indian Health Service.

11 Section 2. The Office of Intergovernmental Relations is requested to send a copy of this
12 resolution to the City's congressional delegation.

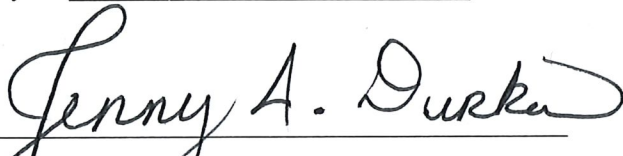
13 Section 3. All Seattle residents and Americans nationwide are encouraged to contact
14 their congressional representatives at (202) 858-1717 to ask their representative to support the
15 Medicare for All Act of 2019.

16


1 Adopted by the City Council the 4th day of March, 2019,
2 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 4th day of
3 March, 2019.

4 
5 President Pro Tem of the City Council

6 The Mayor concurred the 12th day of March, 2019.

7 
8 Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

9 Filed by me this 12th day of March, 2019.

10 
11 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

12 (Seal)