**Resolution in Support**

**National Single Payer Legislation,**

**Expanded and Improved Medicare for All**

Although capable of great medicine, America's health care system is in deep trouble. In spite of efforts to regulate the insurance industry, for-profit health insurance companies are finding ways to skirt the law. The Affordable Care Act, passed in 2010, made it possible for some of the uninsured to find coverage, but did not resolve the problem that health insurance companies are pricing care beyond our means.

Rising co-pays and deductibles make it more difficult for those who have insurance to get the care they need.

Employers seek to drop health benefits for early retirees, for spouses, for part timers. Some corporations use bankruptcy laws to shirk their contractual health care obligations. The rising cost of health insurance is blocking progress in wages and other areas.

Insurance companies rather than patients are deciding what doctors we can see and what hospitals we can use. Drug company profits soar as, so far, congress has not used the power of bulk purchasing to bring down the prices. The US spends double per capita what other industrialized nations spend, yet ranks far below in life expectancy and infant mortality.

Investor-owned hospitals, nursing homes, and dialysis centers put profits above patients, resulting in higher costs and lower quality of care.

We deserve better. Lives are at stake and all of us should have the best care that this wealthy nation has the ability to provide. Our tax dollars subsidize the research, the medical schools, and the hospitals. We’re already paying for the best care but not getting it.

Physicians for a National Health Program has proposed a national single payer, improved Medicare for all plan\* that will remove the profit-making facilities and cover everyone for all necessary medical care care including dental, prescription drugs, hospital, surgical, outpatient services, primary and preventive care, emergency services, mental health, home health, physical therapy, rehabilitation (including for substance abuse), vision care, chiropractic, eyeglasses, hearing aids, other medical devices, long term care, and long term supports and services.

This proposal will restore our right to choose our physicians and free us from insurance company interference in medical decisions. It will ban all co-pays, co-insurance, and deductibles, removing the economic barriers that deny care to so many. It will end the ability of any employer to take away health care during a strike or lockout. It will free our health care from corporate control.

This single payer plan will save hundreds of billions annually by eliminating the high overhead and profits of the private health insurance industry and by using our purchasing power to rein in the drug companies. The transition to national health insurance would apply the savings from eliminating administrative waste and profits to expanding and improving care for all.

The plan will be publicly financed on a progressive basis, assuring that the wealthy pay their fair share while working families are relieved of today’s high costs. The plan will end the ability of employers to hold workers hostage, and no employer will be able to change or take away health care.

**Resolved:**

That \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wholeheartedly endorses the Physicians Proposal for a National Health Plan\*, Expanded and Improved Medicare for All, a national, not-for-profit, single payer health care program.

That \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_will work with others in our community to build a groundswell of popular support and action for this legislative plan until we make what is morally right for our nation into what is also politically possible.

That \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will send a copy of this resolution to our Congressional representatives and to our Senators.

\* <https://www.pnhp.org/PDF_files/Physicians%20ProposalJAMA.pdf>

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\_\_\_Yes, our organization endorsed the Physicians Proposal for a National Health Plan\*, an Improved Medicare for All, national single payer program.

Name of organization\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Signed by\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Title\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If your organization is interested in having a speaker on this topic, please check here\_\_\_\_.

Please return to: Kay Tillow, Unions for Single Payer, P. O. Box 17595, Louisville, KY 40217,

(502) 636-1551, [nursenpo@aol.com](mailto:nursenpo@aol.com) , <http://unionsforsinglepayer.org/> Printed in house. Labor donated.