

Date: June 18, 2019

Resolution No. 19-520

Title: Declaring Support for a National Health Insurance Program, Medicare For All Act of 2019

Department/Agency: Commissioners

Contact: Michael Hart, Executive Assistant

Summary/Background: Despite important gains made in health care by the Affordable Care Act, the number of Americans without health insurance is nearly 30 million and more than 40 million are underinsured and at risk of financial collapse due to medical bills. Introduced in February in Congress, the Medicare for All Act (H.R. 1384) will provide all Americans with quality, affordable, and comprehensive care, including prescription drug coverage, dental, hearing, and long term care.

The Medicare For All Act will guarantee patients to choose their physicians, hospitals, and clinics and they will not be required have co-pays and deductibles. Under this plan, more than 95 percent of working families in the U.S. would save money, including Lucas County employees.

By eliminating the wasteful bureaucracy driven by the financial complexity and profits of the private health insurance industry, our nation will save about \$300 billion annually while providing health coverage for the 30 million people who currently lack insurance and improve coverage for tens of millions Americans who currently are underinsured.

Fifty-nine percent of doctors and 209 health economists from across the country support this approach to national health insurance. Other legislation currently emerging in Congress will not be able to provide universal, comprehensive care because they preserve a dominant role for the private health insurance industry. Employers, including those in the public sector, would save money and would no longer be required to negotiate with unions and private insurers for health insurance coverage.

The Lucas County Commissioners call on the President as well as our Senators and House Representatives to approve H.R. 1384, a single-payer national health insurance as embodied in the "Medicare for All Act of 2019" so that all Americans can be guaranteed the excellent health care system that we deserve and can afford.

Budget Impact: None

Statutory Authority/ORC: N/A

Commissioner Gerken offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in consideration of the above, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio, that:

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Section 1. This Board hereby declares support for a national health insurance program, Medicare For All Act of 2019.

Section 2. This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board and that all deliberations of this Board that resulted in those formal actions were in meeting open to the public in compliance with the law.

Section 3. This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately upon its adoption.

Action Taken:

Commissioner Gerken voted yes

Commissioner Byers voted yes

Commissioner Skeldon Wozniak voted yes



Jody L. Balogh, Clerk