Resolution

Proposed No. 09-08.1

A RESOLUTION urging the 111th Congress of the United States to enact comprehensive health reform in 2009.

WHEREAS, the Public Health Operational Master Plan ("PHOMP") establishes a four-year goal for King County of increasing access to affordable, quality health care through convening and leading the development and implementation of improved community strategies to provide services, and

WHEREAS, King County must have sustainable, predictable, flexible, and adequate financing sources in order to fulfill this goal, and

WHEREAS, the PHOMP directs King County to increase financing stability by advocating for local, state and national health care reform, and

WHEREAS, in November 2005, the residents of the city of Seattle passed Measure 1, directing the city to take to take a number of steps to secure quality health care for all residents of the city, including advocating for health care reform on the state and national levels, and
WHEREAS, in Resolution 08-10 the King County board of health finds that health care reform is necessary to build a well-functioning health care system and to achieve the long-term goals of the PHOMP, and

WHEREAS, in Resolution 08-10 the board adopted six principles for health reform, and

WHEREAS, in Resolution 09-04, the board adopted a health reform project in order to advocate for state and federal health reform based upon the Board’s six health reform principles;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of King County:

A. The Board of Health urges the 111th Congress of the United States to enact comprehensive health reform in 2009 that focuses on achieving good health outcomes by incorporating the board’s six principles for health reform:

1. Access for all. All people have access to affordable, comprehensive health care services on an equitable basis. All individuals are able to access the right care in the right place at the right time.

2. Quality health care. All health care is clinically appropriate and provided in a timely, safe, and patient-centered manner.

3. Financially sustainable. Health care financing is designed and allocated so as to provide permanent, stable, and sufficient funding for quality health care.

4. Responsive to patients and communities. Health services delivery systems are responsive to the needs of the communities they serve. Community members
collaborate with health care systems to ensure the delivery of appropriate quality health care services.

5. Focus on health promotion and disease prevention. The best investments are those that prevent disease and promote good health in the most cost-effective manner.

6. Focus on achieving health equity. Health services delivery and financing systems employ strategies, policies, and interventions aimed at achieving health equity.

B. The Board of Health urges Congress to include in any health reform measure
funding for a strong and stable public health infrastructure which is necessary to
achieving the best health outcomes at the least cost.

Resolution was introduced and passed by the Board of Health on 7/16/2009, by the
following vote:

Yes: 9 - Ms. Lambert, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Clark, Mr. Hutchinson, Ms.
Frisinger and Mr. Gossett
No: 0
Excused: 8 - Mr. Dunn, Mr. Rasmussen, Dr. Sherman, Dr. Nicola, Ms.
Manning, Dr. Counts and Mr. Licata

BOARD OF HEALTH
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Julia Patterson, Chair

ATTEST:

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Board

Attachments None