

UE Local 150 11th Bi-Annual Convention
Resolution in Support of the Medicare for All Act of 2019

WHEREAS, the number of Americans without health insurance is still nearly 37 million, and more than 40 million Americans remain underinsured, despite important gains made since the implementation of the Affordable Care Act;

WHEREAS, the United States paid approximately \$3.5 trillion in total healthcare spending in 2017, an increase of 3.9 percent over the previous year and, at nearly \$11,000 per person, the highest healthcare per capita spending rate in the world;

WHEREAS, despite spending nearly 19 percent of the gross domestic product on healthcare, the United State has worse health outcomes compared with other developed countries, including a maternal mortality rate up to five times more than other developed countries, including a maternal mortality rate up to five times more than other developed countries, a higher infant mortality rate, a lower life expectancy and higher rates of diabetes, heart disease, and preventable deaths;

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act has resulted in dramatic increases in health insurance coverage since its passage in 2010, yet the 14 states, including North Carolina, not participating in ACA-authorized Medicaid expansion perpetuate non-coverage for low-income Individuals;

WHEREAS, every person in North Carolina deserves comprehensive, quality healthcare;

WHEREAS, in North Carolina, as the rest of the U.S., residents of color are less likely than white residents to have health insurance;

WHEREAS, its is a top priority of the UE150 to redress past and current inequities facing our residents;

WHEREAS, medical costs are a significant barrier to seeking medical care for residents in North Carolina

WHEREAS, rising costs of healthcare add additional challenges to our municipal budget and our small businesses;

WHEREAS, the Medicare for All Act of 2019 would provide national health insurance for every person in the United States for all the necessary medical care including prescription drugs, hospital, surgical, outpatient services, primary and preventive care, emergency services, women's reproductive care, dental and vision care, long-term care, without copays, deductibles or other out-of-pocket costs, and would slash bureaucracy, protect the doctor-patient relationship, and assure patients a free choice of doctors;

WHEREAS, the Medicare for All Act of 2019 will guarantee that all residents of North Carolina will be fully covered for healthcare without copays, deductibles, or other out-of-pocket costs and save millions in taxpayer dollars now spent on premiums;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Delegates of the 2020 UE convention expresses its enthusiastic support for the Medicare for All Act of 2019 and calls upon our federal representatives to work towards its immediate enactment, assuring comprehensive and quality healthcare for all residents of the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that UE150 chapters are encouraged to do deep education and agitation around Medicare for All, and to use the struggle for healthcare justice as a recruitment tool to the union;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that UE150 chapters are encouraged to build workplace campaigns to pressure their employers to publicly speak out in support of Medicare for All; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that UE 150 requests that the Executive Board send copies of this resolution to Sen. Thom Tillis, Sen. Richard Burr, Congresswoman Alma Adams, Congressman Dan Bishop, Rep. G.K. Butterfield, Rep. David Price, Rep. Mary Belk, and UE locals, UE regions, as well as any and all other Unions operating in North Carolina.

Submitted by Dominic Harris, President, Charlotte City Workers Union chapter of UE150