

RESOLUTION NO. 110807-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF BEAVER IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO APPROVE HOUSE RESOLUTION 676, THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT, OR SOME VARIATION THEREOF, ESTABLISHING THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE ALL INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN U.S. TERRITORIES WITH FREE HEALTH CARE THAT INCLUDES ALL MEDICALLY NECESSARY CARE, SUCH AS PRIMARY CARE, AND PREVENTION, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, EMERGENCY CARE, AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES;

WHEREAS, thousands of County residents either lack health insurance and depend upon hospital emergency rooms for health care or are under-insured; and

WHEREAS, according to 2005 census data, approximately 46.6 million United States residents were uninsured, with 1.4 million of these individuals residing in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a figure which represents 11% of the Commonwealth's population; and

WHEREAS, other entities within the County experience significant costs for health care; and

WHEREAS, Congressman John Conyers of Michigan, along with 60 other member of the United States House of Representatives have introduced H.R. 676, the United States National Health Insurance Act; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 676 would provide single payer, Medicare health insurance for all US residents through a publicly financed privately delivered health care system, unique to the US, under which residents would retain their choice of provider, doctors, nurses and treatments; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 676, if enacted, would cover primary care, outpatient care, emergency care, medications, durable medical equipment, long term care, mental health services, dentistry, vision, chiropractic and substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, Physicians for a National Health Program estimates that employers that provide health coverage for their employees currently pay an average of 8.5% of their payroll to healthcare costs, and that the United States National Health Insurance Program would, in its first year, result in a savings of \$50 billion on overall health care spending, \$150 billion on paperwork procession and \$50 billion through bulk purchases of medications, which would allow 95% of families in the United States to pay less for health care than they do currently; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of H.R. 676, a national, single payer health care system would be primarily financed by the imposition of a 3.3% payroll tax in addition to the current 1.45% Medicare tax;

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Beaver hereby resolves the following:

1. The Board of Commissioners of the County of Beaver, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, supports the institution of a single payer national health care system. The Board of Commissioners of the County of Beaver accordingly urges the United States Congress to adopt the provisions of HR 676, or some variation thereof, such that the United States National Health Insurance Program is created to provide all individuals residing in the United States and in U.S. territories with free health care that includes all medically necessary care, such as primary care, and prevention, prescription drugs, emergency care, and mental health services.
2. The Board of Commissioners of the County of Beaver further resolves that copies of this Resolution be provide to the Pennsylvania representatives in the United States Congress.

3. If any provision of this Resolution shall be determined to be unlawful, invalid, void or unenforceable, then that provision shall be considered severable from the remaining provisions of this Resolution which shall be in full force and effect.
4. Any Resolution or Ordinance or part thereof conflicting with the provisions of this Resolution is hereby repealed so far as the same affects this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Beaver, a fourth class county under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

1. That the Resolution urging the United States Congress to approve House Resolution 676, the United States National Health Insurance Act, or some variation thereof, establishing the United States National Health Insurance Program to provide all individuals residing in the United States and in U.S. territories with free health care that includes all medically necessary care, such as primary care, and prevention, prescription drugs, emergency care, and mental health services, a copy of which is annexed hereto and by reference made a part hereof, is hereby approved.

2. That the Board of Commissioners, for and on behalf of the County of Beaver, is hereby authorized to execute one duplicate counterparts of said Agreement and Chief Clerk of the County of Beaver is hereby directed to attest the due execution thereof and to affix the Seal of the County of Beaver thereto.

3. That, following the proper execution, attestation and sealing of said duplicate counterparts of said Agreement, the Chief Clerk of the County of Beaver is hereby directed to cause delivery of the same to be made as follows: The original to the Controller of the County of Beaver.

Adopted this 8th day of November, 2007.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE COUNTY OF BEAVER

Nancy Patton
Chief Clerk

Joe Spanik
Joe Spanik, Chairman

Dan Donatella
Dan Donatella

Approved as to Legal Form:

AM Lewis
County Solicitor's Office

Charles A. Camp
Charles A. Camp