

**Sub \_\_\_\_ to 2020 RES-295**  
**IN SUPPORT OF THE MEDICARE FOR ALL ACT OF 2019**

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, close to 30 million Americans were without health insurance. Millions more Americans have lost their employer-based health insurance since the onset of the pandemic, including an estimated 446,000 Wisconsin residents, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation's analysis in July 2020.

The pandemic has demonstrated how our public health depends on the universal availability of high quality health care to all people. The current for-profit healthcare system has demonstrated the inability to protect the health of residents prior to, as well as during, this pandemic. Millions with insurance have coverage so inadequate that a major illness would lead to financial ruin, and medical illness and bills contribute to two-thirds of all bankruptcies.

In Wisconsin, Black, Latinx, and Indigenous people suffer from significant healthcare disparities compared with their White counterparts, including, but not limited to higher rates of being uninsured, of poor or fair health status, chronic diseases, significantly higher preterm births, maternal mortality, and overall mortality. People of color have been hospitalized at high rates due to COVID-19 and suffered death at rates alarmingly higher than would be predicted for their population sizes in Wisconsin. Those same communities of color would see reductions in the aforementioned healthcare disparities from having access to high quality, universal healthcare without the interruptions in care present in an employer-based for-profit system.

Every person in Dane County deserves high quality health care. Continuously rising costs of health care add challenges to already strapped municipal budgets and small businesses. Healthcare is a right and not a privilege, but employer based health insurance has not adequately ensured that right for millions in this country.

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

Recent polls show that a majority of Americans support Medicare for All.

The Medicare for All Act of 2019 would guarantee that all residents of Dane County would be fully covered for health care without copays, deductibles, or other out-of-pocket costs. The quality of life for the residents of Dane County would vastly improve because these residents would be able to get the ongoing care they need instead of waiting until a medical emergency upends their lives and further burdens local resources.

36 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Dane County enthusiastically supports the  
37 Medicare for All Act of 2019 (H.R. 1384 and S. 1129) and calls on federal legislators to work  
38 toward its immediate enactment, assuring appropriate and efficient health care for all residents of  
39 the United States.

~~40 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that support for Medicare for All Act of 2019 (H.R. 1384 and S.  
41 1129) be incorporated into the Dane County legislative agenda.~~

~~40 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Dane County's Legislative Lobbyist will advocate for  
41 enactment of the Medicare for All Act of 2019 in her communications with federal officials on  
42 behalf of Dane County.~~

4243 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to President-Elect Joseph  
4344 Biden Jr., Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris, U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson,  
4445 and the Wisconsin Congressional delegation.