

RESOLUTION NO. 37226

BY REQUEST OF DEPUTY MAYOR TALBERT AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
ANDERSON, EVANS, AND LADENBURG

A RESOLUTION related to health care; expressing the support of the citizens of the City and of the Tacoma City Council for state and federal legislation that would recognize the right of access and availability to high-quality, appropriate health care for all; expressing the City's intent to take steps locally in support of this goal; and thanking those individuals and organizations who support equal access to health care.

WHEREAS health care costs continue to rise each year at three and four times the rate of inflation, and

WHEREAS, in the United States, an estimated 46.6 million people have no health insurance, and at least an additional 40 million are underinsured, and

WHEREAS, according to the 2005 U.S. Census, an estimated 29,000 people in Tacoma and 113,000 people in Pierce County have no health insurance, and

WHEREAS the City Council recognizes that it is increasingly difficult for many Tacoma residents to obtain quality health care services, and

WHEREAS, as the cost of providing health care (including mental health care and dental care) continues to increase, Tacoma's community health centers and public health primary care clinics struggle to meet the ever-increasing demand for services to individuals who are unable to pay for those services, and

WHEREAS obtaining quality health care is a national problem not unique to Tacoma and its surrounding communities, and

WHEREAS volunteers of the Pierce County Chapter of Health Care for All – Washington, and the League of Women Voters of Tacoma – Pierce County, seek to lead the effort to raise awareness of the growing problem of access to quality





1 health care for all, and with the help of St. Leo's Parish, Uplift International, the
2 Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation, the Pierce County Human Services
3 Coalition, the Puget Sound Alliance for Retired Americans, the Washington State
4 Committee for Health Care Is a Right of Health Care for All – Washington, the
5 Pierce County Labor Council, and Centro Latino have collected more than
6 4,500 signatures affirming citizen support for quality health care for all, and

7 WHEREAS the following additional local organizations and individuals
8 endorse the Health Care Is a Right Resolution: Tacoma Catholic Worker;
9 Community Health Care; Pierce County AIDS Foundation; Planned Parenthood of
10 Western Washington; Washington Community Action Network; Associated
11 Ministries; Korean Women's Association; Micah Project – First United Methodist
12 Church; Group Health Cooperative (Tacoma Senior Caucus); the Pierce County
13 YWCA; the Urban League; the Tacoma National Organization for Women;
14 SEIU 1199NW; Physicians for a National Health Program – Western WA Chapter;
15 U.S. Representative Norm Dicks; Retired State Senator Lorraine Wojahn; State
16 Senators Rosa Franklin, Debbie Regala, and Karen Keiser; and State
17 Representatives Jeannie Darneille, Dennis Flannigan, Tami Green, Steve Conway,
18 Steve Kirby, and Eileen Cody, and

19 WHEREAS the right to appropriate high-quality health care for all needs to
20 be affirmed and codified by the United States Congress and the Washington State
21 Legislature; Now, Therefore,
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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

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2 Section 1. That the citizens of the City, through an advisory ballot held on
3 November 6, 2007, expressed their support for state and federal legislation,
4 implementing the right of all citizens to appropriate, high-quality health care that is
5 accessible and available to all, and directed the City Council to forward that
6 support to the Washington State Legislature and the United States Congress.

7 Section 2. That the City Council joins with its citizens in asking the
8 Washington State Legislature and the United States Congress to enact legislation
9 that implements appropriate, high-quality health care that is accessible and
10 available to all and calls upon members of the Washington State Congressional
11 Delegation to move this issue to the forefront of the federal agenda and for
12 members of the Washington State Legislature to move this issue to the forefront of
13 the state agenda.

14 Section 3. That the City Council intends to consider actions it can take
15 locally in support of education and advocacy efforts regarding this issue, including
16 asking the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department to take actions such as
17 researching ways to improve health care access for uninsured Tacoma residents;
18 compiling data and publishing an annual report on local health care indicators,
19 including information on access to health care; and convening a panel of experts to
20 prepare a report and make recommendations to the City about specific steps the
21 City and private employers could take to improve insurance coverage for Tacoma
22 residents.
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1 Section 4. The City Council commends the efforts of the Pierce County
2 Chapter of Health Care for All – Washington, and the League of Women Voters of
3 Tacoma – Pierce County, for bringing this problem to the attention of the
4 Washington State Legislature and the United States Congress and further urges
5 the Washington State Legislature and the United States Congress to hasten the
6 passage of legislation implementing quality health care for all.
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8 Adopted _____

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10 _____
11 Mayor

12 Attest:

13 _____
14 City Clerk

15 Approved as to form:

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17 _____
18 Assistant City Attorney
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REQUEST FOR
[] ORDINANCE [X] RESOLUTION

Request #: 11446
Ord./Res. #: 37226

1. DATE: June 26, 2007

2. SPONSORED BY: Deputy Mayor Talbert, Council Members Anderson, Evans, and Ladenburg
3a. REQUESTING DEPARTMENT/DIVISION/PROGRAM Legislative
3b. Do PASS FROM [Committee Name]
4a. CONTACT (for questions): Dio Neris
4b. Person Presenting: Julie Anderson
4c. ATTORNEY: Steve Gross
Department Director/Utility Division
Budget Officer/Finance Director
City Manager/Director Utilities

5. REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 10, 2007

6. SUMMARY AGENDA TITLE: (A concise sentence, as it will appear on the Council agenda.)

Expressing the support of the City Council for state and national legislation that would provide access and availability to high quality appropriate health care for all.

7. BACKGROUND INFORMATION/GENERAL DISCUSSION: (Why is this request necessary? Are there legal requirements? What are the viable alternatives? Who has been involved in the process?)

Health care costs continue to rise each year at three and four times the rate of inflation and in the United States an estimated 46.6 million people have no health insurance and at least an additional 40 million are underinsured. According to the 2005 U.S. Census, an estimated 29, 000 people in Tacoma and 113,000 people in Pierce County have no health insurance. The City Council recognizes that it is increasingly difficult for many Tacoma residents to obtain quality health care services, and as the cost of providing health care continues to increase, Tacoma's community and public health primary care clinics struggle to meet the ever-increasing demand for services to individuals who are unable to pay for those services.

The Citizens of the City of Tacoma, through an advisory ballot held on November 6, 2007, expressed their support for state and federal legislation implementing the right of all citizens to appropriate, high quality health care that is accessible and available to all, and directed the City Council to forward that support to the Washington State Legislature and the United States Congress.

8. LIST ALL MATERIAL AVAILABLE AS BACKUP INFORMATION FOR THE REQUEST AND INDICATE WHERE FILED:
Source Documents/Backup Material Location of Document

9. FINANCIAL IMPACT: A. [X] NO IMPACT (NO FISCAL NOTE)
B. [] YES, OVER \$100,000, Fiscal Note Attached
C. [] YES, UNDER \$100,000, (NO FISCAL NOTE) Provide funding source information below:

FUNDING SOURCE: (Enter amount of funding from each source)

Fund Number & Name: State \$ City \$ Other \$ Total Amount

If an expenditure, is it budgeted? [] Yes [] No Where? Cost Center:

Acct #:

136



RESOLUTION NO. 37227

1 BY REQUEST OF DEPUTY MAYOR TALBERT AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
2 ANDERSON, EVANS, AND LANDENBURG

3 A RESOLUTION providing for the submission of a proposition to the qualified
4 voters of the City of Tacoma at the November 6, 2007, general election, for
5 their approval or rejection, that would authorize the City Council to send a
6 resolution to the Washington State Legislature and to the United States
7 Congress that would express the City's support for state and federal
8 legislation recognizing the right to appropriate, high-quality health care that
9 is accessible and available to all individuals, indicate the City Council's
intent to take steps locally in support of this goal, and thank individuals and
organizations supporting equal access to health care; setting forth the ballot
proposition; and directing the City Clerk to certify to the Pierce County
Auditor a certified copy of this resolution.

10 WHEREAS the Tacoma City Council received a petition signed by over
11 4,500 citizens expressing support for quality health care for all, and

12 WHEREAS the City Council recognizes that it is increasingly difficult for
13 many Tacoma residents to obtain quality health care services, and

14 WHEREAS, on June 27, 2007, the City Clerk assigned Request No. 11446
15 to a proposed resolution that (1) requests the Washington State Legislature and
16 the United States Congress to enact legislation to ensure quality health care for all
17 and (2) thanks the individuals and organizations that support quality health care for
18 all, and
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20 WHEREAS the City Council seeks the guidance of the citizens of the City
21 regarding whether to enact Request No. 11446; Now, Therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

23 Section 1. That the City hereby requests that the Pierce County Auditor's
24 Office, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections in Pierce County, submit to the qualified
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electorate of the City, at the November 6, 2007 general election, a proposition substantially in the form as follows:

PROPOSITION NO. 1

CITY OF TACOMA RESOLUTION REGARDING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR ALL

The City Council proposes to adopt a Resolution asking State and Federal lawmakers to enact legislation providing access to high-quality health care for all individuals. Should this proposition be:

Approved?
Rejected?

Section 2. That this measure shall be placed on the November 6, 2007, general election ballot for a vote. The proposition, if approved, would ask the City Council to adopt a resolution in substantially the same form as Request No. 11446 and forward it to the Washington State Legislature and the United States Congress.

Section 3. That the City has previously elected to participate jointly with Pierce County ("County") in its voters' pamphlet. Pursuant to RCW 29.81A.030, the text for the measure, accompanied by an explanatory statement, shall be prepared by the City Attorney's Office, to be included in the County's Official Local Voters' Pamphlet. The explanatory statement shall not exceed 200 words and shall be submitted to the Pierce County Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections, at least 45 days prior to the election.



1 Section 4. That the City Clerk shall certify to the Pierce County Auditor, as
2 supervisor of elections, a certified copy of this resolution, together with a
3 proposition substantially in the form set forth in Section 1, at least 45 days prior to
4 the November 6, 2007, election.

5 Section 5. If a section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase
6 of this resolution is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason by any court
7 of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining
8 portions of this resolution.

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10 Adopted _____

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12 _____
13 Mayor

14 Attest:

15 _____
16 City Clerk

17 Approved as to form:

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19 _____
20 Assistant City Attorney



REQUEST FOR
ORDINANCE RESOLUTION

Request #: 11447
Ord./Res. #: 37227

1. DATE: June 26, 2007

2. SPONSORED BY: DEPUTY MAYOR TALBERT AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ANDERSON AND EVANS
3a. REQUESTING DEPARTMENT/DIVISION/PROGRAM Legislative
3b. DO PASS FROM Yes No Did not go before a Committee
4a. CONTACT (for questions): Dio Neris
4b. Person Presenting: Council Member Anderson
4c. ATTORNEY: Steve Gross
PHONE: 253-591-5100
PHONE: 253-591-5100
PHONE: 253-591-5638

5. REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 10, 2007

This legislation would need to be considered by July 10, 2007, in order to meet the timelines for forwarding the proposition to the Auditor for placement on the November 6, 2007 General Election ballot.

6. SUMMARY AGENDA TITLE: (A concise sentence, as it will appear on the Council agenda.)

Request that the Pierce County Auditor submit to the voters of Tacoma on November 6, 2007, a proposition that would authorize the City Council to send a resolution to the Washington State Legislature and the United States Congress that would express the City's support for state and federal legislation providing access to appropriate, high quality health care that is available to all individuals.

7. BACKGROUND INFORMATION/GENERAL DISCUSSION: (Why is this request necessary? Are there legal requirements? What are the viable alternatives? Who has been involved in the process?)

The City Council of Tacoma received a petition signed by over 4,500 citizens expressing support for quality health care. On July 10, 2007, the City Clerk assigned Request No. 11446 to a proposed resolution that requests that the Washington State Legislature and the United States Congress enact legislation to ensure quality health care for all individuals.

8. LIST ALL MATERIAL AVAILABLE AS BACKUP INFORMATION FOR THE REQUEST AND INDICATE WHERE FILED:

Table with 2 columns: Source Documents/Backup Material, Location of Document. Row: Health Care Advisory Ballot Explanatory Statement Attached

9. FINANCIAL IMPACT: A. NO IMPACT (NO FISCAL NOTE) B. YES, OVER \$100,000, Fiscal Note Attached C. YES, UNDER \$100,000, (NO FISCAL NOTE) Provide funding source information below:

FUNDING SOURCE: (Enter amount of funding from each source)

Table with 4 columns: Fund Number & Name, State \$, City \$, Other \$, Total Amount. Row: Non-department \$100,000 \$100,000

If an expenditure, is it budgeted? Yes No Where? Cost Center: 651000

Acct #:

140

RECEIVED
2007 JUN 27 AM 10:44
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE