
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT LEGISLATION
PROVIDING EXPANDED AND IMPROVED MEDICARE FOR ALL.

1 WHEREAS, the United States has the highest per capita
2 health care costs in the world, yet ranks near the bottom in
3 nearly all health indicators among industrialized nations
4 according to the Organization of Economic Cooperation and
5 Development; and

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7 WHEREAS, the United States is the only developed nation
8 that does not offer some form of universal health coverage,
9 instead relying on a mixture of socialized healthcare via
10 Medicare and Medicaid, the Veterans Administration, and for-
11 profit private medical insurance; and

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13 WHEREAS, the United States is the only country that places
14 the burden of funding healthcare on employers, creating
15 additional costs for doing business and additional costs for
16 consumers; and

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18 WHEREAS, the current healthcare system requires cost
19 sharing by patients in addition to taxes and premiums, in the
20 form of co-pays, co-insurance, and deductibles, in addition to
21 any uncovered out-of-pocket expenses; and

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23 WHEREAS, nearly half of all bankruptcies in the United
24 States are due to medical expenses, and the majority of those
25 going bankrupt have medical insurance; and

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27 WHEREAS, the for-profit insurance industry provides no
28 patient care, but can dictate patient treatment and create
29 additional barriers between healthcare providers and patients;
30 and



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1 WHEREAS, Medicare's administrative costs are between two
2 and five percent, compared to the thirteen to twenty percent of
3 for-profit insurers; and
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5 WHEREAS, for-profit insurers impose administrative costs on
6 doctors and hospitals that raise overall system costs; and
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8 WHEREAS, Canada, Taiwan, Great Britain, France, Germany,
9 the Netherlands, Switzerland, Japan, Israel, and other countries
10 have been reliably providing universal healthcare coverage for
11 their citizens while keeping costs well below those of the
12 United States; and
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14 WHEREAS, removing medical insurance from the cost of doing
15 business will free up capital for businesses and lower the costs
16 of producing goods in the United States; and
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18 WHEREAS, removing unneeded, profit-driven barriers between
19 doctors and patients will improve health outcomes; and
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21 WHEREAS, Medicare for all will ensure that all Americans
22 have access to affordable healthcare; and
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24 WHEREAS, any modifications to the federal Medicare program
25 must be done through the actions of the United States Congress;
26 now, therefore,
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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
30 2019, the Senate concurring, that the United States Congress is
31 respectfully urged to enact H.R. 1384, a bill to establish an
32 improved Medicare For All national health insurance program,
33 also known as the "2019 Medicare For All Act", sponsored by
34 Representative Pramila Jayapal in the United States House of
35 Representatives for the 116th Congress; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
 3 United States; the Majority Leader of the United States Senate;
 4 the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; and
 5 the members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.
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OFFERED BY: Tim Winters

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