

RESOLUTION 2013 - 13

Minutes of the April 1, 2013, Corvallis City Council meeting, continued.

A resolution submitted by Councilor Joel Hirsch.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Corvallis believes that every citizen and family in our city, county, the state of Oregon will benefit from affordable, quality health care, and the City Council believes that disruptive health care costs to local economies and governments would be reduced thereby; and

WHEREAS, that even with the expected benefits of the federal Affordable Care Act and Oregon's Coordinated Care Organizations, healthcare costs are expected to continue to increase; and

WHEREAS, a well designed health care system could relieve businesses and city governments of their current healthcare costs and result in better access to health care and health outcomes for all residents of our cities and state; and

WHEREAS, as a major local employer, the City of Corvallis provides health insurance for over 400 employees and their families and has worked for many years to provide cost effective, responsive health care insurance through an investment in health strategy and partnerships with other employers, and yet has still experienced rapid increases in health care premiums and expenses; and

WHEREAS, such matters as health care affordability and access ultimately are community issues with local importance and long-term impacts that strain local government budgets in diverse ways, such as public safety and school health issues; and

WHEREAS, the Corvallis Vision 2020 Statement references such impacts and sets a community goal for comprehensive health services that are easily accessible and available to all residents; and

WHEREAS, even those people who have health insurance experience high medical debt, and medical costs are a frequent cause of filing personal bankruptcy for those that are insured as well as those who lack insurance; and

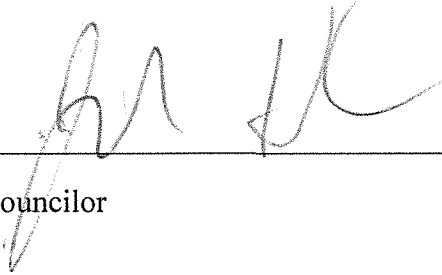
WHEREAS, health care reform efforts are aimed at improving access and affordability of health care as well as transparency of cost and performance information and provider and consumer incentives for wise use of health care and engagement in wellness and prevention; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Corvallis has a history of supporting single payer health care, as noted in its 2011 Resolution in support of House Bill 3510 or Senate Bill 888.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORVALLIS RESOLVES that the City Council, in order to support access for the citizens of Corvallis to higher quality and effective health care, urges the Oregon state legislature to enact House Bill 3260, which would direct the Oregon legislature to conduct a study of relative costs and benefits among several health care plan proposals, including:

- (a) a publicly financed, privately delivered single-payer system such as used successfully by most other developed countries,

- (b) the current system in Oregon and the US including P-PACA and Coordinated Care Organizations created by Oregon's Health Care Transformation legislation,
- (c) a system allowing choice of private versus public insurance, and
- (d) other options to be suggested by the investigator performing the study.



Councilor

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the foregoing resolution was adopted, and the Mayor thereupon declared said resolution to be adopted.