

RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF HEALTHY UTAH

Whereas, Approximately 111,000 Utahns are ineligible for Medicaid benefits under current Medicaid rules;

Whereas, These are disabled adults who earn between 100-133% of the federal poverty level (FPL), adults with children who make 50-133% FPL and adults without children who earn 0-133% of FPL;

Whereas, Potential economic impacts of expanded health coverage would result in hospitals and community health centers saving \$814M in uncompensated care, over \$2.9B generated in economic impacts and the creation of over 3,000 health sector jobs;

Whereas, Charity care plays an important role in community health, but cannot assure the continuity and coordination of care necessary for adequate treatment of complex and chronic medical conditions;

Whereas, Serious injury and illness are inevitable in the low income population, and adequate healthcare coverage will prevent financial devastation of individuals and families, improve healthcare quality and outcomes, reduce the overall cost of care, and reduce cost shifting inherent within the current system;

Whereas, Expanded health coverage will promote the well being of individuals, thus enhancing their ability to work, provide for their own needs and the needs of their families, and make positive contributions within our communities;

Whereas, The Healthy Utah Plan will provide insurance for 111,000 Utahns while supporting private insurance markets, boosting the Utah economy and maximizing flexibility for individual consumers; and

Whereas, The Healthy Utah Plan accepts \$258M in federal funds per year, recouping taxpayer dollars that should be used for the benefit of Utah residents in need, while also providing flexibility to tailor programs to fit the needs of both residents and the State; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Women's State Legislative Council of Utah supports Governor Herbert's Healthy Utah Plan.

Dated this 12th day of March 2014

Kari Malkovich, President
Women's State Legislative Council of Utah

Kitty Kaplan, Director
Health & Human Services
Legislative Study Committee

Marci Curran, Co-Chair
Health & Human Services
Legislative Study Committee

Resources:

- 1 Utah Health Policy Project (UHPP) presentation to WSLC 2/12/2014
- 2 Public Consulting Group Utah Medicaid Expansion Analysis 6/2013
- 3 <http://blog.healthpolicyproject.org/?tag=herbert>