

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2016-\_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE REPEAL OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (“ACA”) by the State of California and Alameda County has been enormously successful in increasing access to quality health care for State and County residents by helping them obtain health insurance;<sup>1</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, evidence for this success is provided by the recent Census Bureau report which documented that over 3 million Californians<sup>2</sup> had gained health insurance during the ACA’s 2013, 2014 and 2015 open enrollment periods, and the 102,071 Alameda County residents currently enrolled as Medicaid Coverage Expansion (MCE) members in Alameda County’s two Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans—79,000 with Alameda Alliance for Health and 23,071 with Anthem Blue Cross; and

**WHEREAS**, the diversity of the Medicaid Coverage Expansion (MCE) enrollees in Alameda County—approximately 20 percent Black; 18 percent Hispanic, 16 percent White, 12 percent Chinese; eight percent Asian/Pacific Islander; four percent Vietnamese; four percent Filipino, and three percent Asian Indian—reflects the overall racial and ethnic diversity of Alameda County; and

**WHEREAS**, Alameda County’s eight Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) have 41,624—or 40 percent—of the newly eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Alameda County assigned to them as their medical home, including both Alameda Alliance for Health and Anthem Blue Cross Members, and project they will receive 128,000 visits by these Medi-Cal beneficiaries in 2016 for medical, dental, behavioral health, and optical visits; and

**WHEREAS**, there are a total of 443,365 Medi-Cal enrollees in Alameda County as of January 2016 comprising more than one-quarter of the County’s population.<sup>3</sup>

**WHEREAS**, approximately 321,000 Alameda County residents are enrolled in the County’s Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans,<sup>4</sup> and, as of March 2016, over 64,000 Alameda County residents have enrolled in health insurance plans through the Covered California exchange; and

**WHEREAS**, the State and Alameda County are currently overseeing the 2016 open enrollment period, and the ACA continues to assist Alameda County in providing health care to its residents to this day; and

**WHEREAS**, the public and private providers of health care to Alameda County residents must be fairly compensated for their services, and the increased access to higher quality health insurance that the ACA has provided for Californians and Alameda County residents has become a crucial element in helping Alameda County health providers receive more consistent and fair compensation; and

**WHEREAS**, a loss of Medi-Cal funding for Alameda County’s community health centers’ MCE patients would not only limit their ability to serve 42,000 MCE enrollees, but also undermine their ability to serve their entire patient population of over 190,000 Alameda County

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<sup>1</sup> *California’s Future: Health Care*, by Shannon McConville, Public Policy Institute of California, January 2016. [http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R\\_116SMR.pdf](http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_116SMR.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> *The 2016-17 Budget: Analysis of the Medi-Cal Budget*, by Mac Taylor, California’s Legislative Analyst’s Office, February 2016, <http://www.lao.ca.gov/reports/2016/3350/medi-cal-budget-analysis-021116.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> “Fact Sheet: Medi-Cal Reaches Millions of People Across California, but Faces an Uncertain Future,” by Scott Graves, California Budget & Policy Center, November 2016. <http://calbudgetcenter.org/resources/medi-cal-reaches-millions-people-across-california-faces-uncertain-future/>.

<sup>4</sup> “Medi-Cal Managed Care Enrollment Report – October 2016.” California Department of Health Care Services. [http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/reports/Documents/MMCD\\_Enrollment\\_Reports/MMCEnrollRptOct2016.pdf](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/reports/Documents/MMCD_Enrollment_Reports/MMCEnrollRptOct2016.pdf).

residents—the majority of whom live in Oakland, Hayward, San Leandro, Fremont, and Berkeley;<sup>5</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, four Emergency Rooms in Alameda County and other desperately needed services have been under major threat of closure in the last decade, and the State and Alameda County’s ACA implementations have been crucial in preserving many of these services; and

**WHEREAS**, multiple leaders taking control of the Executive and Legislative branches of the Federal Government in 2017 have stated their desire to quickly repeal the ACA even though they have not established replacement policies to ensure that over 20 million Americans who have gained health insurance through ACA-subsidized programs maintain their access to care;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY**, urges the Executive and Legislative branches of the Federal Government to build on the many successes of the Affordable Care Act and to work to improve the ACA instead of repealing it; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY** urges the Executive and Legislative branches of the Federal Government to acknowledge reports from multiple agencies of the Federal Government which have factually proven that year-to-year rises in the overall cost of health care in the United States decreased in the years following the passage and major implementations of the ACA, and that solvency for the Medicare trust fund has substantially increased since the passage and major implementations of the ACA; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY** will direct Alameda County personnel to seek all opportunities to work with Federal, State, County and local leaders representing California residents to fight against the repeal of the Affordable Care Act and further regressive policy proposals by leaders of the Executive and Legislative branches of the Federal Government to reduce funding for Medicaid and Medicare in the proposed implementations of block grants, privatization schemes, and other methods.

**THE FOREGOING was PASSED and ADOPTED by a majority vote of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors this \_\_\_\_ day of December 2016, by the following vote:**

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**EXCUSED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Scott Haggerty**  
**PRESIDENT, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Attest:**  
Clerk, Board of Supervisors

**Approved as to Form:**  
Donna R. Ziegler  
County Counsel

By \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Raymond Lara  
Senior Deputy County Counsel

<sup>5</sup> “Fact Sheet: Community Health Centers at a Glance – 2015,” by the Alameda Health Consortium.