

T. G. B.

**The U.S. Conference of Mayors
76th Annual Meeting
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SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

2008 ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT (H.R. 676)

WHEREAS, every person deserves access to affordable quality health care; and

WHEREAS, the number of Americans without health insurance now exceeds 47 million; and

WHEREAS, millions with insurance have coverage so inadequate that a major illness would lead to financial ruin, and medical illness and bills contribute to one-half of all bankruptcies; and

WHEREAS, proposals for "consumer directed health care" would worsen this situation by penalizing the sick, discouraging prevention and saddling many working families with huge medical bills; and

WHEREAS, managed care and other market-based reforms have failed to contain health care costs, which now threaten the international competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, administrative waste stemming from our reliance on private insurers consumes one-third of private health spending while the single payer Medicare system has administrative costs of less than 5%; and

WHEREAS, U.S. hospitals spend 24.3% of their budgets on billing and administration while hospitals under Canada's single payer system spend only 12.9%; and

WHEREAS, Harvard researchers estimate that more than \$300 billion could be recovered by replacing private insurance companies with a single public payer, enough to cover the uninsured and to improve coverage for all those who now have only partial coverage; and

WHEREAS, entrusting care to profit-oriented firms diverts billions of dollars to outrageous incomes for CEOs and threatens the quality of care; and

WHEREAS, The United States National Health Insurance Act (H.R. 676) would assure universal coverage of all medically necessary services, contain costs by slashing bureaucracy, protect the doctor patient relationship, assure patients a completely free choice of doctors, and allow physicians a free choice of practice settings; and

WHEREAS, most polls show that the majority of Americans support universal health care; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of this resolution, the majority of American physicians (59%) believe that Single Payer is the best method of securing universal health care; and

WHEREAS, The United States National Health Insurance Act (H.R. 676) will guarantee every mayor that all residents and employees of his/her city will be fully covered for health care and save millions of taxpayer dollars now spent on premiums to provide less than full health insurance coverage for government employees; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the United States Conference of Mayors expresses its support for The United States National Health Insurance Act (H.R. 676), and calls upon federal legislators to work towards its immediate enactment, and further urges the adoption of a process by which health care will be required to justify any increases to health care costs.

Oregon: Health Insurance Coverage of the Total Population, state (2006-2007), U.S. (2007)

Health Insurance Coverage of the Total Population, states (2006-2007), U.S. (2007)

	OR #	OR %	US #	US %
Employer	1,943,329	52%	159,311,384	53%
Individual	231,049	6%	14,541,782	5%
Medicaid	410,084	11%	39,296,423	13%
Medicare	457,012	12%	36,155,452	12%
Other Public	39,072	1%	3,253,122	1%
Uninsured	648,169	17%	45,657,193	15%
Total	3,728,717	100%	298,215,356	100%

Sources:

Urban Institute and Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured estimates based on the Census Bureau's March 2007 and 2008 Current Population Survey (CPS: Annual Social and Economic Supplements).

Out of the 52% Employer paid health care, approximately 500,000, or 13.4% are public employees. Restating the percentages: Public employees, 13.4%, Medicare 11%, Medicare 12%, Other Public 1% 38.6% paid by private employers, 6% paid by individuals. 1.7% uncovered

Reworking these percentages after removing the 17% uncovered, we get|
**Public employees, 16.14%, Medicare 13.25%, Medicare 14.45%, Other Public 1.20% = 45.04% paid by public money
 45.78% paid by employers, 7.23 % paid by individuals.
Assuming \$20 Billion total expenditures, we get, in \$ Billion:**