



## City of Detroit Detroit City Council

FROM THE DESK OF  
Mary Waters, Member At-Large  
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**WHEREAS**, although the Affordable Care Act allowed healthcare coverage for millions of additional people and our healthcare practitioners can perform great deeds, our healthcare system is in a state of crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the COVID pandemic, natural disasters, divorce, corporate and public bankruptcies and cyclical unemployment crisis have clearly shown that no one's health nor their health insurance is secure with 30 million Americans without health insurance and an additional 50 million who are underinsured. Michigan suffers from racial and ethnic health disparities that represent a public health crisis, particularly for Black and Latinx Michiganders. Detroit residents score lower than the average in state and national healthcare outcomes with over 58,000 people without any health coverage; and

**WHEREAS**, our employer based, profit driven healthcare delivery system rations healthcare according to ability to pay, which has diminished the overall health of our citizens to the point that the U.S. ranks 35th in the world in health outcomes, and even worse for infant mortality and life expectancy, yet ranks first in healthcare costs while causing the death of over 40,000 family members, friends and neighbors every year due to lack of healthcare; and

**WHEREAS**, without new strategies the never-ending rising costs of healthcare continue to challenge our already strapped municipal budgets and our businesses that keep our communities thriving. We have tried all the healthcare insurance industries' attempts at controlling raising costs; PPO's, HMO's, HSA's, HRA's, bigger deductibles, higher copays. These attempts have only benefited the insurance industry's bottom line while leaving our employers, employees and retirees more expensive or unaffordable healthcare; and

**WHEREAS** the Medicare for All Acts would provide national single payer health insurance for every person in the United States for all necessary medical care including prescription drugs; hospital, surgical and outpatient services; primary and preventive care; emergency services; women's reproductive care; dental and vision care; long-term care for the aged and disabled community; and

**WHEREAS** the Medicare for All Acts would provide coverage without copays, deductibles or other out-of-pocket costs, and would provide expanded universal coverage, save us money, control costs, eliminate healthcare inequalities, provide us true freedom of choice and prepare us for the healthcare challenges of the future; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Detroit City Council enthusiastically supports the Medicare for All Acts and calls on Michigan's Congressional Delegation and all federal legislators to be cosponsors and do all in their powers to successfully move these Acts through the legislative process to enactment.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, a copy of this resolution shall be sent to President Joseph Biden Jr., Vice President Kamala Harris, U.S. Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters, the Michigan Congressional delegation and all others deemed appropriate for the successful passage of this legislation.