RESOLUTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER RAQUEL CASTANEDA-LOPEZ  
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE MEDICARE FOR ALL ACT OF 2019  

WHEREAS, The mission of the Detroit City Council is to promote the economic, cultural and physical welfare of Detroit’s citizens through Charter-mandated legislative functions; and  

WHEREAS, The current healthcare system fails to provide adequate healthcare, which is a basic right of all people living in the United States. The U.S. pays nearly $11,000 per person for healthcare, the highest healthcare per capita spending rate in the world; and  

WHEREAS, Despite spending over 18 percent of the nation’s gross domestic product on healthcare, the United States has health outcomes that are significantly worse than other industrialized countries. U.S. life expectancy is lower than other nations, while the U.S. infant mortality rate is much higher. Additionally, the U.S. has higher rates of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and preventable deaths when compared to other industrialized countries. Detroiters experience diabetes and obesity at rates even higher than the national average; and  

WHEREAS, Although the Affordable Health Care Act (ACA) has resulted in dramatic increases in health insurance coverage since its passage in 2010, too many Americans are one medical crisis away from bankruptcy, or they are forced to choose between either rent and food, or lifesaving medical treatment and medicines; and  

WHEREAS, The Medicare for All Act of 2019, if passed, would simplify the healthcare system by creating a single-payer universal Medicare program that would cover all Americans, including the 28 million Americans that are currently uninsured. This model would reduce the exorbitant amount currently spent on administering the inefficient multi-payer system, and allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices, significantly lowering the cost of prescription drugs, and  

WHEREAS, The features of the bill include provisions that would eliminate copays, premiums, and deductibles; ensure that every single resident of the U.S. has access to comprehensive quality healthcare, including primary care, hospital and outpatient services; long term services and supports; mental health and substance abuse treatments; laboratory and diagnostic services and ambulatory services; and gives patients freedom to choose their doctors, hospitals, and other providers; NOW THEREFORE BE IT  

RESOLVED, The Detroit City Council, as an advocate of the efficient use of tax payer dollars, expresses its strong support of Medicare for All Act of 2019 and urges the Federal Government to pass this post haste; THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY  

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Detroit Delegation in Washington and to President Trump.