

WHEREAS, the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("ACA") by the State of California and Contra Costa County has been successful in increasing access to quality health care for State and County residents by helping them obtain health insurance; and

WHEREAS, evidence for this success is provided by the recent Census Bureau report which documented that over 3 million Californians had gained health insurance during the ACA's 2013, 2014 and 2015 open enrollment periods, and the 213,000 Contra Costa County residents currently enrolled in Medi-Cal. Medicaid Coverage Expansion (MCE) members in Contra Costa County's two Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans total of 74,631, with 52,912 with Contra Costa Health Plan. (The additional 21,719 are assigned with Anthem Blue Cross and Fee for Services providers.)

WHEREAS, the diversity of the Medicaid Coverage Expansion (MCE) enrollees in Contra Costa Health Plan includes approximately 22 percent Hispanic, 24 percent Caucasian, 13 percent Asian, 12 percent African American, and 8 percent Other Race, reflecting the racial and ethnic diversity of Contra Costa County; and

WHEREAS, Contra Costa County's 15 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), which include the County's and those operated by community partners have 74,631 newly eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Contra Costa County assigned to them as their medical home, including both Contra Costa Health Plan and Anthem Blue Cross Members. CCHP project they will receive 468,072 visits by these Medi-Cal beneficiaries in 2017 for medical, dental, behavioral health, and optical visits; and

WHEREAS, there are a total of 275,099 Medi-Cal enrollees in Contra Costa County as of January 2017 comprising more than 31% of the County's population; and

WHEREAS, approximately 213,000 Contra Costa County residents are enrolled in the County's Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans, and over 41,353 Contra Costa County residents have enrolled in health insurance plans through the Covered California exchange; and

WHEREAS, the State and Contra Costa County are currently overseeing the 2017 open enrollment period, and the ACA continues to assist Contra Costa County in providing health care to its residents to this day; and

WHEREAS, the public and private providers of health care to Contra Costa 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 Contra Costa County residents has become a crucial element in helping Contra Costa County health providers receive more consistent and fair compensation; and

WHEREAS, a loss of Medi-Cal funding for Contra Costa County's community health centers' MCE patients would not only limit their ability to serve 74,631 MCE enrollees, but also undermine their ability to serve their entire patient population of over 90,000 Contra Costa County residents; and

WHEREAS, Contra Costa County is committed to ensuring that all County residents have access to reliable and culturally appropriate primary care services;

WHEREAS, Eight (8) Emergency Rooms in Contra Costa County and other desperately needed services have been threatened by ACA potential changes. The State and Contra Costa County's ACA implementations have been crucial in preserving many of these services; and

WHEREAS, multiple leaders of the Executive and Legislative branches of the Federal Government in 2017 have stated their desire to 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 CONTRA COSTA 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 CONTRA COSTA COUNTY urges the Executive and Legislative branches of the Federal Government to acknowledge reports from multiple agencies of the Federal Government which have 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 increased since the passage and implementation of the ACA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY will direct Contra Costa County staff to seek opportunities to work with Federal, State, County and local leaders representing California residents to oppose the repeal of the Affordable Care Act and any policy proposals to reduce funding for Medicaid and Medicare.