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CITY OF SEATTLE
RESOLUTION 31446

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A RESOLUTION enlisting City departments to educate and inform the public about new healthcare coverage programs made available through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and to encourage them to enroll and plan for healthcare coverage.

WHEREAS, in 2010, the United States Congress passed the Affordable Care Act in order to expand health insurance coverage while simultaneously improving quality and controlling costs; and

WHEREAS, The Affordable Care Act includes provisions designed to subsidize health care coverage for low and moderate income people, improve integration and coordination of care, and strengthen access to preventive services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle is charged with protecting and improving the health and well-being of all people in Seattle and strongly supports the Affordable Care Act's intent to reduce health inequities; and

WHEREAS, there are currently about 16% or (approximately 200,000) King County residents who are uninsured, and who experience challenges in accessing quality, affordable health care; and

WHEREAS, beginning in January 2014 most people will be required to have healthcare coverage; and

WHEREAS, beginning in January 2014, eligibility for Medicaid in Washington will expand to include those with incomes at or below 138% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL); and

WHEREAS, beginning in January 2014 Washington's Health Benefit Exchange will provide individuals and small businesses private health coverage options for purchase, and subsidies and tax credits will be available to help make options more affordable; and

WHEREAS, most insurance companies will be required to offer the most effective, proven preventive services with no co-payments or deductibles; and

WHEREAS, Seattle residents can begin enrolling in Medicaid expansion and the Exchange on October 1, 2013 and healthcare coverage will begin January 2014; and



1 WHEREAS, in January 2014, about 80,000 uninsured King County residents—about 26,000 of
2 whom are in Seattle—will be newly eligible for Medicaid and about 100,000 uninsured King
3 County residents—about 30,000 of whom are in Seattle—will be newly eligible for subsidized
4 coverage through the Exchange; and

5 WHEREAS, Seattle embraces collaborative approaches to problem solving, has a strong network
6 of City departments, and is committed to build on effective outreach and enrollment strategies;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Seattle will be stronger with a culturally and linguistically competent and
9 consumer-driven plan for enrolling all newly eligible residents in healthcare coverage, and

10 WHEREAS, a key component of Seattle’s outreach plan will be to provide person-to-person
11 support for individuals, particularly the most vulnerable, who need more intensive help with the
12 application processes and accessing health care services, and

13 WHEREAS, despite the fact that King County and the City of Seattle have made progress in
14 improving residents’ health, important and major disparities remain in relation to geography,
15 race/ethnicity and other social factors , and

16 WHEREAS, a coordinated system of health care is imperative to create and implement
17 innovative health and human service models that integrate services across various sectors such as
18 housing, health services and community prevention and public health;

19 NOW, THEREFORE,

20 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**
21 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

22 Section 1. The Mayor and the City Council direct City departments to develop an outreach plan
23 that builds upon and coordinates with the efforts of community partners to enroll all newly
24 eligible residents in the new healthcare coverage options made available through the Affordable
25 Care Act.



1 Section 2. City of Seattle Departments will provide information to individuals on the merits of
2 enrolling in healthcare coverage, and through their outreach and enrollment efforts will increase
3 the number of Seattle residents who have health insurance.

4
5 Adopted by the City Council the ____ day of _____, 2013, and signed by
6 me in open session in authentication of its adoption this _____ day
7 of _____, 2013.

8 _____
9 President _____ of the City Council

10
11 THE MAYOR CONCURRING:

12
13 _____
14 Michael McGinn, Mayor

15
16 Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2013.

17
18 _____
19 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

20
21 (Seal)



FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Legislative	Elaine Ko/4.8618	N/A

Legislation Title:

A RESOLUTION enlisting City departments to educate and inform the public about new healthcare coverage programs made available through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and to encourage them to enroll and plan for healthcare coverage.

Summary of the Legislation:

The passage of the Affordable Care Act creates an opportunity for the City to help with enrolling folks in obtaining insurance and collaborate with King County to enroll folks in the ACA.

Background:

Please check one of the following:

This legislation does not have any financial implications.

(Please skip to "Other Implications" section at the end of the document and answer questions a-h. Earlier sections that are left blank should be deleted. Please delete the instructions provided in parentheses at the end of each question.)

This legislation has financial implications.

(If the legislation has direct fiscal impacts (e.g., appropriations, revenue, positions), fill out the relevant sections below. If the financial implications are indirect or longer-term, describe them in narrative in the "Other Implications" Section. Please delete the instructions provided in parentheses at the end of each title and question.)

Other Implications:

- a) **Does the legislation have indirect financial implications, or long-term implications?**
No
- b) **What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?**
NA
- c) **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**
No
- d) **What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?** NA
- e) **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**
No



f) Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?

No

g) Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No

h) Other Issues:

List attachments to the fiscal note below: