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Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 4:28 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Medicare for All

-EXTERNAL-

In regards to Item 21 on the City Council June 8 agenda, I want to enthusiastically support approval. I am a family doctor with public health and epidemiology experience in LA County. I have seen many patients who could not get needed medical care because they were uninsured or underinsured. I have had patients die because they did not want to bankrupt their family to pay for needed care to keep them alive. I have been in practice since Medicare was created and seen the evolution from when the poor sick elderly were dropped at the ER (dumped) without IDs because their family could not care for them to the point that most seniors feel secure they have access to good care. At the same time Medicare lowered senior poverty from around 40% in 1965 to 9% now. Medicare is a good model: Public financing, universal care, private providers. Medicare for all is good public policy. This will save the City of Long Beach money and improve the quality of life for all Long Beach residents.

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