



OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
Long Beach, California

C-6

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December 18, 2007

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution of the City Council of the City of Long Beach in Support of Senate Bill 840 Introduced by Senator Sheila Kuehl to Provide Affordable Healthcare for all Californians.

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to your request of December 11, 2007, this office has prepared and submits the above-described resolution for your consideration.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney

By

AMY R. BURTON
Deputy City Attorney

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

1 RESOLUTION NO.

2
3 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
4 CITY OF LONG BEACH IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL
5 840 INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SHEILA KUEHL TO
6 PROVIDE AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE FOR ALL
7 CALIFORNIANS

8
9 WHEREAS, the number of uninsured Californians has now reached 6.5
10 million residents, with most of the newly uninsured coming from solidly middle-class
11 families; and

12 WHEREAS, overall healthcare costs in the United States are rising at
13 double the rate of inflation; and

14 WHEREAS, health insurance premiums have increased 87 percent since
15 2000, with the average employee contributing 143 percent more to their company-
16 sponsored health insurance; and

17 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 840 would create the California Healthcare System
18 (CHS), a single payer healthcare system administered by the California Health Agency,
19 to provide health insurance coverage to all California residents; and

20 WHEREAS, the single payer healthcare system will require no new
21 spending because the system will be paid for by federal, state and county funds already
22 being spent on healthcare and by affordable insurance premiums that replace all
23 premiums, deductibles, out-of-pocket payments and co-pays now paid by employers and
24 consumers; and

25 WHEREAS, it is anticipated that state and local governments would save
26 approximately \$900 million, in the first year, in spending for health benefits provided to
27 workers and retirees; and

28 WHEREAS, employers who currently offer health benefits would realize

1 average savings of 16 percent compared to the current system; and

2 WHEREAS, studies have shown that 20 to 30 percent of current healthcare
3 dollars (excluding profit) are spent on the administration of various insurance plans; and

4 WHEREAS, the California Healthcare System will substantially reduce
5 those administrative costs, saving an estimated \$20 billion statewide; and

6 WHEREAS, the State will use its purchasing power to buy prescription
7 drugs and durable medical equipment in bulk, saving an estimated \$5.2 billion statewide;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as
9 follows:

10 Section 1. The City Council hereby supports the passage of Senator
11 Sheila Kuehl's State Senate Bill 840 - The California Universal Healthcare Act, and
12 directs the City Manager to advocate for passage of this important bill.

13 Section 2. The city Clerk is directed to transmit a copy of this resolution
14 to Senator Kuehl, the members of the California Legislature representing the Long Beach
15 area, and other officials, agencies, entities and individuals as determined by the City
16 Manager.

17 Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
18 by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of _____, 20__ by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: _____

Noes: Councilmembers: _____

Absent: Councilmembers: _____

City Clerk

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