

**Resolution on health care passed by the Democratic Party of Lane County
(DPLC) on July 19, 2012 (essentially a membership agreement to HCAO)**

Whereas

1. There are many components that contribute to good health, including the ability to respond to sickness, disease and injury;
2. Achieving the goal of living a healthy life is impossible without the ability to access health care;
3. Health care should be available to everyone;
4. The lack of available health care is a barrier to opportunity, success and quality of life;
5. Oregonians should not be divided between those who can afford to be healthy and those who cannot;
6. Oregonians should not be divided between those who have hopes and dreams and those whose sickness, disease or injury robs them of their hopes and dreams;
7. The cost of health care is the primary cause of personal bankruptcies, even though the majority were insured when their health crises occurred;
8. The inclusion of health insurance in employer overhead makes Oregon (and U.S.) industry non-competitive with virtually all foreign industry, where the cost of health care does not have to be added directly to the cost of production;
9. Comprehensive single payer health care for everyone living in Oregon is estimated to cost no more than our current costs for incomplete and inadequate coverage, and to cost much less than the current system in the future;
10. Private insurance markets are inherently ineffective, inequitable, excessively bureaucratic and wasteful as means to assure universal access to health care;
11. Health care coverage should be treated as public good, provided equitably in a universal risk pool, comparable to public schools, public safety and public utilities;

And whereas

12. Single payer health care is the most frequently mentioned legislative action item in the DPLC's adopted 2012 platform;
13. Among the highest priority legislative action items from the Democratic Party of Oregon 2012 platform convention is "Recognize in the Constitution that health care is a fundamental human right, and adopt a comprehensive single payer health care system that

provides all Oregonians with basic health care that include medical, dental, vision, mental health care, addiction treatment and preventative care by licensed providers";

14. There is a statewide coalition (Health Care for all Oregon, or HCAO) that has formed to establish the principle that health care is a human right, and to create a comprehensive single payer health care system to secure that right, in Oregon, and ultimately in the United States;
15. The statewide coalition includes, locally, ESSN, AFCSME 1740, PNHP-Eugene (Physicians for a National Health Plan), HCAO- Eugene, but not yet the DPLC;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Democratic Party of Lane County will apply for membership in the HCAO coalition, and in our membership agreement we will agree to:

1. Help raise funds for HCAO;
2. Advertise relevant HCAO events in the Outspoken, on our calendar, and through emails to DPLC members;
3. Encourage DPLC canvassers to bring up health care as a human right when it is appropriate during an election season;
4. Help HCAO canvassers in using the Voter Activation Network (VAN) in compliance with our user agreement;
5. Help with signature gathering for an initiative petition if the coalition decides this is useful;
6. Allow small meetings related to HCAO that involve a DPLC PCP to use the DPLC office if it the office is not already being used by a DPLC committee or a Democratic Party campaign, and if it is convenient for someone with a key to be there;
7. Work with other local coalition organizations on public events that educate about or promote health care as a human right or comprehensive single payer health care in Oregon.

Therefore Be It Further Resolved that

1. The Democratic Party of Lane County urges the Democratic Party of Oregon and other local democratic organizations to join the HCAO coalition.
2. A copy of this resolution will be sent to the Chair, the Secretary, and the Executive Director of the Democratic Party of Oregon, and to the Chairs of all of the DPLC's sister DPO county organizations.