

## RESOLUTION NO. 1227

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### A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EDMONDS, WASHINGTON, URGING THE WASHINGTON STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ABANDON HIS LAWSUIT CHALLENGING THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT ENACTED INTO LAW ON MARCH 23, 2010, AND AS AMENDED

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- WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("PPACA" or "The Act") became law on March 23, 2010, and
- WHEREAS, PPACA provides rebates to Medicare prescription drug plan beneficiaries after their initial benefits run out; and
- WHEREAS, the Act by July 1, 2010 will provide access to high-risk pools for people who have no insurance because of preexisting conditions; and
- WHEREAS, within six months after enactment, PPACA will bar insurers from denying people coverage when they get sick and when they most need health care, will bar insurers from denying coverage to children with preexisting conditions, will bar insurers from imposing lifetime caps on benefits, and will require insurers to allow people under the age of 27 to remain as beneficiaries under their parents' policies; and
- WHEREAS, by 2011, PPACA will require individual and small group plans to spend at least 80% of their premiums on medical services and will require large group plans to spend at least 85% of their premiums on medical services; and
- WHEREAS, the Act by 2013 will increase Medicare payroll taxes and dividend and interest taxes on the wealthiest individuals in the United States making over \$200,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for joint filers; and
- WHEREAS, the Act by 2014 will provide health insurance premium subsidies for families earning less than \$80,000 per year and require employers to provide coverage to all workers and require most Americans to obtain insurance coverage or face penalties for remaining uninsured; and
- WHEREAS, under the Act, the uninsured and self-employed would be able to purchase insurance through state-based exchanges with subsidies available to individuals and families with income between the 133 percent and 400 percent of poverty level; and
- WHEREAS, the state of Virginia has commenced an action in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia seeking to invalidate and nullify the PPACA by alleging that the law violates the Commerce Clause of the Constitution of the United States in that it requires individuals to purchase health care insurance beyond the authority of the Congress of the United States; and
- WHEREAS, the Attorney General of the State of Washington has announced his intention to join a lawsuit along with the Attorneys General from Florida, Alabama, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Michigan, Nebraska and Colorado seeking to invalidate ; and
- WHEREAS, the U.S. economy is currently struggling through a recession of historic magnitude, making premiums for health care insurance more than many families can afford; and
- WHEREAS, unemployment nationally and in Washington remains around 10%, making it financially impossible for many families and children to obtain health insurance or basic medical care; and

WHEREAS, the residents of the City of Edmonds deserve the best health care possible without regard to whether or not they can afford insurance premiums charged by health insurance companies; and

WHEREAS, taxpayers within the City of Edmonds will be forced by the State Attorney General's action to have their limited tax dollars used to challenge a health care program that is necessary and beneficial for residents of the City of Edmonds;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EDMONDS, WASHINGTON HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The Washington State Attorney General should not join any lawsuit challenging the PPACA; and

The State of Washington should not devote any taxpayer dollars to attempting to nullify or invalidate the PPACA; and

Copies of this Resolution will immediately be transmitted by the City Clerk to The office of the Governor of the State of Washington and the Attorney General of the State of Washington..

RESOLVED this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010.

APPROVED;

  
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STEVE BERNHEIM, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

  
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CITY CLERK, SANDRA S. CHASE  
FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 04-2-2010

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 4-6-2010  
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