

1 [Urging Congress to hold hearings on HR 676]
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3 **Resolution urging the United States House of Representatives to begin hearings on**
4 **House Resolution 676 – The United States National Health Insurance Act (Expanded**
5 **and Improved Medicare for All) authored by Representative John Conyers, Jr. (D - MI).**
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7 WHEREAS, United States Representative, John Conyers, Jr. (D - MI), has introduced
8 House Resolution 676, the United States National Health Insurance Act, in the United States
9 House of Representatives for the 110th Congress, and this act would provide a universal,
10 comprehensive, single payer system of high quality national health insurance; and,

11 WHEREAS, Rationing healthcare according to ability to pay has diminished the overall
12 health of our citizens to the point at which the United Sates ranks shamefully low at thirty-
13 seventh in quality by the World Health Organization; and,

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 80,000 San Franciscans lacked health insurance in 2007,
15 and every person in San Francisco and in the United States deserves access to affordable
16 quality healthcare; and,

17 WHEREAS, HR 676 will cover all medically necessary services, including primary care,
18 in-patient care, out-patient care, emergency care, prescription drugs, durable medical
19 equipment, hearing services, long-term care, mental health services, dentistry, eye care,
20 chiropractic, and substance abuse treatment; and,

21 WHEREAS, The Institute of Medicine has estimated that 18,000 people a year die
22 because of lack of health insurance; and,

23 WHEREAS, Those insured now often experience burdensome medical debt and
24 sometimes life-threatening delays in obtaining healthcare; and,

25 WHEREAS, One-half of personal bankruptcies are due to illness or medical bills; and,

1 WHEREAS, HR 676 allows patients to have their choice of physicians, providers,
2 hospitals, clinics, and practices; and,

3 WHEREAS, No co-pays or deductibles are permissible under 676; and,

4 WHEREAS, The crisis in healthcare in the United States of America includes rising
5 health costs, increased costs and out-of-pocket medical expenses; and,

6 WHEREAS, The rising cost of insuring public employees can be reduced and best met
7 not by limiting benefits but by providing benefits under a publicly-funded health insurance
8 program; and,

9 WHEREAS, The complex bureaucracy arising from a fragmented, multi-payer system
10 of healthcare financing consumes approximately 30 percent of U.S. healthcare spending; now
11 therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco endorse House Resolution
13 676; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco call upon the
15 United States House of Representatives to begin hearings on House Resolution 676 as soon
16 as possible; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors direct the Clerk of the Board to
18 send this resolution to our Federal Legislative Delegation.

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