

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE LAKE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY – MEDICAID EXPANSION IN 2015

Resolutions Adopted by the Lake County Democratic Party in 2015 ENDORSEMENT OF MEDICAID EXPANSION & CREATION OF A STATE-BASED HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE

Whereas, expanding Medicaid would provide health insurance coverage to over 750,000 Floridians who currently fall within the coverage gap; specifically, they earn too much to qualify for traditional Medicaid, but too little to qualify for insurance through the federal Health Insurance Marketplace.

Whereas, expanding Medicaid would give said Floridians access to primary care physicians and preventative care, which would improve their health, prevent medical conditions from worsening, and lessen the current burden on hospital emergency rooms; and

Whereas, expanding Medicaid would qualify Florida to receive over \$50 billion in federal funds over the next 10 years; and

Whereas, expanding Medicaid would create over 71,000 jobs and boost Florida's economy; and

Whereas, expanding Medicaid would allow the Medicaid taxes paid by Floridians to benefit Florida, and would lessen the financial burden on families and businesses that do pay insurance premiums; and

Whereas, expanding Medicaid would reduce the number of employees that employers are required to insure; and

Whereas, expanding Medicaid would allow Florida hospitals to receive \$22.6 billion in federal reimbursements over the next 10 years, and would off-set the loss of current federal hospital subsidies set to expire July 1, 2015; and

Whereas, expanding Medicaid would reduce the number of families forced into bankruptcies by high medical bills; and

Whereas, over one million Floridians have enrolled for health insurance offered through the federal Health Insurance Marketplace, and the great majority of these enrollees qualify for federal subsidies to lower monthly premiums; and

Whereas, a legal challenge pending before the United States Supreme Court in *King vs. Burwell* may eliminate all of said subsidies unless Florida creates its own health insurance marketplace; and

Whereas, Florida, by creating its own health insurance marketplace, would provide a valuable service to its citizens;

NOW THEREFORE, the Lake County Democratic Party hereby endorses the expansion of Medicaid and the creation of a federally supported state-based marketplace in Florida; and

FURTHERMORE, the Lake County Democratic Party hereby urges the governing bodies of Lake County and each of its municipalities to adopt a similar endorsement, and to send notice of said endorsement to all members of the Florida Legislature who represent any of the citizens of Lake County.

This endorsement was adopted by the Lake County Democratic Party at the January 8, 2015 meeting of its Democratic Executive Committee in Tavares, Florida.