



County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069
(831) 454-2200 FAX: (831) 454-3262 TDD: (831) 454-2123

JANET K. BEAUTZ
FIRST DISTRICT

WALTER J. SYMONS
SECOND DISTRICT

MARDI WORMHOUDT
THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS
FOURTH DISTRICT

JEFF ALMQUIST
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 4/27/99

April 19, 1999

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL 480 - UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

Dear Members of the Board:

Attached is a letter from the Santa Cruz County Women's Commission urging that our Board to take a position in support of Senate Bill 480, authored by Senator Solis. Also attached is a copy of the legislation in its current form.

While existing law provides for the regulation of health care providers by various State agencies, Senate Bill 480 would require that as of July 1, 2003, health coverage would be universally available to every resident of California. Senate Bill 480 then goes on to establish a process to carry out this directive by requiring the Secretary of the Health and Welfare Agency to make various recommendations to the Legislature concerning the financing, delivery, and extent and scope of universal health coverage, and to develop a process to develop these recommendations. In addition, SB 480 would require the Secretary to develop proposed legislation to implement universal health coverage, would require the Department of Finance to identify the method for financing universal health coverage and would require the Department of Finance to identify the method for financing universal health coverage.

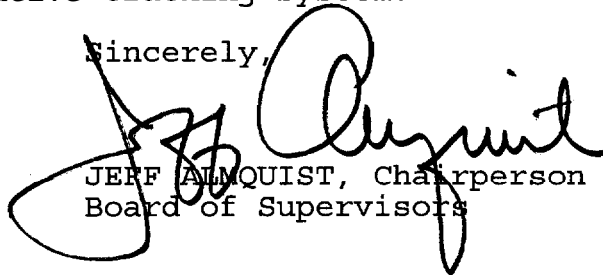
I believe that Senate Bill 480 establishes a reasonable program to ensure that health care is universally available to people throughout the State and concur with the Women's Commission that it deserves our support. Accordingly, I recommend that the Board of Supervisors take the following actions:

1. Adopt the attached resolution supporting the passage of Senate Bill 480.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
April 19, 1999
Page 2

2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to distribute the resolution as indicated.
3. Direct the County Administrative Officer to place the Bill in our legislative tracking system.

Sincerely,



JEFF ALMQUIST, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

JA:ted
Attachments

cc: Senator Hilda Solis
Senator Bruce McPherson
Assembly Member Fred Keeley
Assembly Member Peter Frusetta
County Administrative Office
Women's Commission

1420126

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO.

On the motion of Supervisor
duly seconded by Supervisor
the following resolution is adopted

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL 480

WHEREAS, Senator Hilda Solis has introduced Senate Bill 480 into the California State Senate; and

WHEREAS, while existing law provides for the regulation of health care providers by various State agencies, Senate Bill 480 would require that as of July 1, 2003, health coverage would be universally available to every resident of California; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 480 establishes a process to carry out this directive by requiring the Secretary of the Health and Welfare Agency to make various recommendations to the Legislature concerning the financing, delivery, and extent and scope of universal health coverage, and to develop a process to develop these recommendations; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 480 would further require the Secretary to develop proposed legislation to implement universal health coverage, would require the Department of Finance to identify the method for financing universal health coverage, and would require the Department of Finance to identify the method for financing universal health coverage; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 480 establishes a reasonable program to ensure that health care is universally available to people throughout the State of California.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors hereby urges the passage of Senate Bill 480.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this _____ day of _____, 1999, by the following vote:

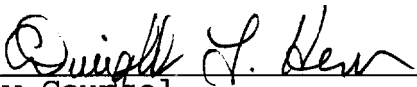
AYES: SUPERVISORS
NOES: SUPERVISORS
ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

JEFF ALMQUIST, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of said Board

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL 480
Page 2

Approved as to form:



County Counsel

DISTRIBUTION: Governor Davis
Senator Solis
Senator McPherson
Assembly Member Keeley
Assembly Member Frusetta
County Counsel
Women's Commission

1420A6

WOMEN'S COMMISSION



C O U N T Y O F S A N T A C R U Z

(831) 454-2772

701 OCEAN STREET SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060

April 5, 1999

**Jeff Almquist, Chair
Board of Supervisors
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060**

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Santa Cruz County Women's Commission supports the concept of universal health care for all. Many working women find themselves without medical coverage for themselves and their children. For women employed at low wages, there is no extra money to purchase private medical insurance. The high rate of medically uninsured disproportionately effects women.

We urge the Board of Supervisors to take a stand in support of Universal Health Coverage by signing the enclosed forms and mailing them to the authors of the bill SB480.

Thank you for supporting the needs of women in our county.

Sincerely,

**Rita Flores
Coordinator of the Women's Commission**

An Overview of SB 480 -- Universal Health Coverage

Author: Hilda Solis (L.A.)

Provided to Senator Solis and HCA-CA by Lenny Goldberg

1. What does SB 480 do?

SB 480 provides a simple statement in the Welfare and Institutions Code:

“25000. As of July 1, 2003, health coverage shall be universally available to every resident of California.”

It then establishes a process by which California shall move toward that date, in which the Secretary of the Health and Human Services Agency shall make recommendations to the Legislature on:

1. how to finance universal health coverage,
2. the institutional mechanisms for delivery of universal coverage, and
3. "the extent and scope of the health coverage which all California residents shall have."

The process includes incorporating all parties of interest in a participatory manner, as convened by the Secretary, to advise in the development of the proposal; and developing and utilizing data, with specific reference to the University of California study of universal coverage currently under way.

The Legislature will have to pass subsequent implementing legislation, and the Department of Finance will have to develop budget proposals for 2003. The Administration is also asked to seek federal waivers as necessary.

SB 480 will also be amended to incorporate a yearly report on the progress which California is making toward universal coverage.

2. What is the purpose of SB 480?

The goal of universal coverage is widely shared by virtually everyone who has engaged in the health care debate. The problem has been: how do we get there? So far, there have been a variety of approaches at the state and federal level, all of which have failed.

SB 480 takes another approach, which is designed to break the stalemate. It goes beyond studying the problem, by setting a date certain in statute by which Californians will have universal coverage. At the same time, it makes no promises which cannot be kept or policy decisions about how to deliver universal coverage. Rather, it engages all health care constituencies, the Administration, and the Legislature in a process by which various policies to achieve universal health care can be discussed and, finally, achieved.

This approach is designed to be complementary to the many areas of health care reform which are currently at issue in the Legislature: Healthy Families expansion, tobacco settlement, Medi-

Senator Hilda Solis
Room 4039
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Fax: 916-445-0485

Dear Senator Solis,

On behalf of my organization, I am pleased to inform you that we have endorsed SB 480, the Universal Health Care Bill.

Sincerely,

(Signature)

(Printed Name)

(Title or Position in Organization)

(Address of Organization)

(Phone Number)

(Fax)

(Email)

(Date)
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OFFICE:
P.O. Box 40344
Long Beach, CA
90804
☎ (562) 437-1571



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA OFFICE:
P.O. Box 460622
San Francisco, CA
94146
☎ (415) 695-7891

Lenny Goldberg and Associates
Suite 710
926 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Fax: 916-444-6611

Dear Lenny,

Please add this letter to your file of endorsements for SB 480, the Universal Health Care bill. On behalf of my organization, I have sent a formal letter of endorsement to the office of Senator Hilda Solis.

Sincerely,

(Signature)

(Printed Name)

(Title or Position in Organization)

(Address of Organization)

(Phone Number)

(Fax)

(Email)

(Date)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OFFICE:
20. Box 13344
Long Beach, CA
90804
☎ (562) 437-1571



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA OFFICE:
P.O. Box 460622
San Francisco, CA
94146
☎ (415) 695-7891

120

BILL NUMBER: SB 480 INTRODUCED
BILL TEXT

INTRODUCED BY Senator Solis

FEBRUARY 18, 1999

An act to add Division 25 (commencing with Section 25000) to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to health care coverage.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 480, as introduced, Solis. Health care coverage.

Existing law provides for the regulation of health care providers by various state agencies.

This bill would require that as of July 1, 2003, health coverage be universally available to every resident of California. This bill would require the Secretary of the Health and Welfare Agency to make various recommendations to the Legislature concerning the financing, delivery, and extent and scope of universal health coverage, and to develop a process to develop these recommendations. The bill would require the secretary to develop proposed legislation to implement universal health coverage and would require the Department of Finance to identify the method for financing universal health coverage.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Division 25 (commencing with Section 25000) is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

DIVISION 25. HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

25000. As of July 1, 2003, health coverage shall be universally available to every resident of California.

25001. The Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency shall report back to the Legislature, by December 15, 2000, with the following recommendations:

(a) The means of financing the universal health coverage required in Section 25000.

(b) The institutional mechanism or mechanisms by which universal health coverage shall be delivered.

(c) The extent and scope of the health coverage which all California residents shall have.

25002. To develop the recommendations required in Section 25001, the secretary shall establish a process by which these recommendations are developed. The process shall at a minimum include the following:

(a) The examination and utilization of research results from the study performed by the University of California with regard to methods of financing, delivering and defining universal health coverage, done pursuant to the criteria in Senate Concurrent Resolution 100 of the 1997-1998 Regular Session of the Legislature.

(b) The examination and utilization of other data and information, as requested by the secretary or provided to the secretary, with regard to methods of financing, delivering, or defining universal health coverage.

(c) Developing a process by which representatives of health care consumers, providers, insurers, health care workers, advocates,

counties, and all other interested parties are engaged in discussion, debate, and eventual resolution of the issues faced by the state in providing universal health coverage. The secretary shall develop the methods by which this discussion occurs, provided that it is broadly inclusive of all groups with an interest in universal health coverage.

(d) Inter-agency participation including, but not limited to, the State Department of Health Services, the State Department of Mental Health, the Department of Finance, the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board, the Department of Consumer Affairs, the Public Employees' Retirement System, the State Department of Social Services, the Department of Corporations, the Department of Insurance, and any other appropriate agencies which the secretary determines can contribute to the effort to provide universal health coverage.

(e) Working with United States Health Care Finance Administration to develop a plan for appropriate federal waivers if necessary.

25003. The secretary shall develop proposed legislation to implement universal health coverage for introduction in the 2001-02 Session of the Legislature. The Department of Finance shall, in the proposed 2003-04 state budget, identify the method by which financing for universal health coverage shall be implemented.