

SUPPORT SINGLE-PAYER HEALTHCARE COVERAGE FOR ALL  
(MEDICARE FOR ALL)

- WHEREAS: access to adequate healthcare is a basic human right; and
- WHEREAS: the United States spends more per capita on healthcare than any other country; and
- WHEREAS: the United States provides healthcare that ranks approximately 34th among the countries of the world; and
- WHEREAS: many citizens of the United States are not able to afford adequate healthcare; it is clear that the funds spent on healthcare are being misspent or unduly enriching the insurance industry; and
- WHEREAS: the Affordable Healthcare Act (ACA), though it has many useful features, has inadequate cost controls; and
- WHEREAS: the ACA forbids enactment of single-payer programs until 2017; and
- WHEREAS: the State Leadership in Healthcare Act (S73) sponsored by Senators Sanders and Leahy of Vermont will enable states to collect all of the federal funding otherwise earmarked for healthcare coverage and use it instead to finance coverage of state-based programs as early as 2014; and
- WHEREAS: state single-payer has been introduced into several states; and
- WHEREAS: state single-payer insurance coverage would provide affordable, comprehensive healthcare coverage of high quality for all residents of the state using a unified and cohesive financing system which would use fewer healthcare dollars than we now spend; THEREFORE BE IT
- RESOLVED: that the ILWU endorses the Sanders/Leahy bill, S73; and BE IT FINALLY
- RESOLVED: that the ILWU pledges to advocate and promote enactment of state single-payer healthcare in the entire country, and to urge our legislators at the state and federal level to facilitate this goal.