



**COMMISSIONERS**  
Jimmy Dimora  
Peter Lawson Jones  
Tim McCormack

---

## CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

---

### RESOLUTION

#### **Resolution: Supporting Health Care for All.**

---

**WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners has a long record of commitment to programs and services to promote health and wellness of all County residents.**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners has supported a series of initiatives to provide a safety net of health services for low-income families, seniors, and children.**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners has continued to provide to MetroHealth Hospital System significant funding from Cuyahoga taxpayers to support the mission of MetroHealth – to provide quality care to all who need it despite ability to pay.**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners has successfully undertaken outreach and enrollment efforts to provide Medicaid coverage to more than 100,000 children eligible under Ohio’s Child Health Insurance Program.**

**WHEREAS, 96,000 people – more than half of whom are in working families – are without health insurance in Cuyahoga County.**

**WHEREAS, for a great majority of people, health care is tied to employment, and workers face an uncertain future as layoffs mount and as insurance premium costs rise sharply.**

**WHEREAS, health care should be a right available to all, not a commodity accorded to some.**

**WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners supports a health care plan that offers comprehensive and lifetime care for all residents.**

**WHEREAS, more than 43 million people in our country, including 11 million children, have no health insurance, and more than 100,000 people lose their health insurance every month.**

**WHEREAS, insurance coverage frequently limits access to needed treatment, prescription drugs, dental and vision care.**

**WHEREAS, employment in the United States has increasingly changed from full-time to contractual work with no health care benefits, which affects a large number of single mothers and lower income workers.**

**WHEREAS, millions of uninsured and underinsured Americans would be bankrupted if they had the misfortune of being hit with a catastrophic illness.**

**WHEREAS, the infant mortality rate in some American cities is as high as some third world countries.**

**WHEREAS, America ranks only 22<sup>nd</sup> among the 190 industrialized nations in life expectancy.**

**WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has found that the quality of U.S. health care is ranked 37<sup>th</sup> in the world.**

**AND WHEREAS, our country needs a health care system that promotes wellness and guarantees access to quality health care for everyone, whether employed or not, and that ensures free choice of doctors to preserve the patient/doctor relationship.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County reaffirms its support for a national health care plan as called for in the Board's resolution of August 7, 2001.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County, as an interim step toward the goal of a national health care plan, urges the Ohio General Assembly to act without delay to pass publicly funded universal health care guaranteeing coverage for all Ohioans.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County be, and she is, hereby instructed to forward one copy of this resolution to all members of the Ohio General Assembly from Cuyahoga County; Governor Robert Taft; the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Ohio General Assembly, and the Senate Majority Leader of the Ohio General Assembly.**

**On Motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Dimora, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.**

**Ayes: Jones Dimora, McCormack.**

**Nays: None.**

**Resolution Adopted.**

**Marjorie J. Pettus,  
Clerk of the Board**

**022302**  
**fg**