

WHEREAS, The American Academy of Family Physicians strategic objectives include the advancement of health care for all, and

WHEREAS, the current health care financing system has inherent barriers that can make patient care unaffordable, inequitable, and fragmented, and

Whereas, The United States is one of the only industrialized nations that doesn't provide universal access to health care¹; and

Whereas, Nearly 30 million Americans are still uninsured after full implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Many Americans die each year because they lack health insurance, as the uninsured have an increased risk of death compared to the insured²; and

Whereas, Insurance coverage does not mean patients have access to care if the premiums, co-pays, and deductibles are not affordable to families in need, and the narrower networks being provided further limit access; and

Whereas, The American Health Care Act proposed by the current administration in Washington dismantles the ACA and will likely lead to an additional 24 million people without health insurance³, and

Whereas, the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*⁴ exhorts professional societies to speak with a single voice and say that health care should be a basic right for every person, and not a privilege; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the American Academy of Family Physicians recognizes that health care is a basic human right for every person and not a privilege.

¹ <https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2012/06/heres-a-map-of-the-countries-that-provide-universal-health-care-americas-still-not-on-it/259153/>

² Kaiser Family Foundation 9/29/16 <http://kff.org/uninsured/fact-sheet/key-facts-about-the-uninsured-population/>

³ <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/52486>

⁴ *JAMA*. 2017;317(1):29.