

## **Resolution Supporting Healthcare Insurance Education**

WHEREAS, healthcare insurance programs, coverage options, medical costs, and patient rights are often difficult for residents to understand, and confusion regarding Medicare, Medi-Cal, health insurance plans, deductibles, co-pays, provider networks, and available healthcare resources can prevent individuals from accessing the care and benefits for which they qualify; and

WHEREAS, although California has expanded access to health coverage through Medi-Cal and Covered California, many residents continue to struggle to understand insurance options, eligibility requirements, healthcare costs, and patient rights, and recent federal healthcare policy changes, including reductions in funding for the Affordable Care Act Navigator Program and reductions in enrollment assistance, have made it increasingly difficult for seniors, low-income families, immigrants, individuals with disabilities, individuals with limited English proficiency, and other underserved communities to obtain, maintain, and effectively use their health coverage; and

WHEREAS, community-based education programs, multilingual resources, and partnerships among healthcare providers, libraries, schools, nonprofit organizations, and local governments improve healthcare literacy by helping residents understand their insurance options, exercise their patient rights, avoid unnecessary medical debt, and access preventive and vital healthcare services;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party supports expanding healthcare insurance literacy through free community workshops, multilingual educational materials, and public outreach that equips residents with the knowledge necessary to understand health insurance, public healthcare programs, patient rights, and available healthcare resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party encourages partnerships between healthcare providers, community organizations, libraries, legal aid organizations, and local governments to expand access to healthcare literacy resources, insurance navigation assistance, and multilingual educational materials that help residents understand their healthcare coverage and patient rights, and that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Members of Congress representing any part of Santa Clara County.

Submitted by: Shriya Singh