



## ***“Voice of the Western Slope Since 1953”***

*A coalition of individuals, businesses and local governments*

---

(970) 242-3264 ★ FAX (970) 245-8300  
P.O. Box 550 ★ Grand Junction, CO 81502-0550

### **HC 05 01**

#### **HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION, ASSESSING IMPACTS**

**WHEREAS** rural communities have very limited resources with which to provide health care services, and

**WHEREAS** broad geographic service areas pose huge limitations on the availability of options and access to health care services for rural constituents, and

**WHEREAS**, because of these unique challenges in accessing rural health care services, health care legislation designed to enhance the delivery of health care services statewide can oftentimes pose unique adverse (and usually unintended) consequences on rural communities, and

**WHEREAS** the costs of many well-intended health care policy mandates for specific medical conditions or treatments outweigh the anticipated benefits and create a cost-shift

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Club 20 encourages the State of Colorado to develop an objective process by which proposed health care legislation (prior to passage) shall be reviewed in order to assess the likely cost to implement such legislation, the relative value of the anticipated benefit of the legislation, and the potential impacts that such legislation may have on rural communities, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the results of such a “rural health care assessment” be shared with the legislature, prior to formal consideration of any such legislation, in order to better enable them to make health care policy decisions benefit all of Colorado.

*Adopted 4/1/05  
Amended 4/9/10*