



“Voice of the Western Slope since 1953”

A coalition of counties, communities, businesses & individuals

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07-9-HC-1

Mandatory Health Insurance Coverage

WHEREAS the cost of health care and health insurance continues to increase and is a significant concern in Western Colorado, and

WHEREAS certain health care providers, such as Emergency Rooms, are required by law to provide care to all persons who seek it, including persons who cannot afford insurance coverage and persons who can afford coverage but have chosen to not purchase even basic health insurance coverage, and

WHEREAS the cost of services provided to such uninsured persons are then shifted to the rest of the population in Western Colorado who must pay more for their health care in order to cover the costs of the “free riders”, and

WHEREAS this cost-shifting is a significant cause of the increase in the overall cost of health care, and

WHEREAS cost-shifting is a fundamentally unfair benefit for those who choose to be “free riders” in the health care system, and

WHEREAS CLUB 20 believes that individuals should be responsible for their own health care (CLUB 20 policy #03–9 HC 2);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CLUB 20 believes that no person, other than those who truly cannot afford to obtain health insurance coverage, should be allowed to shift the costs of his or her health care to the general population in Western Colorado; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CLUB 20 believes that all persons should be required to obtain coverage for basic health care services (including trauma care and other services obtained in Emergency Rooms) if such coverage is available and affordable.

Adopted 9/7/07