

**RESOLUTION**  
**BOROUGH OF FORT LEE**  
**BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

CA - 6

DATE March 10, 2011

COUNCIL	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Pohan						
Sohmer						
Goldberg						
Sargent						
Kasofsky		✓				
Cervieri	✓					

Carried  Defeated  Tabled Approved on Consent Agenda 

WHEREAS, every person in the Borough of Fort Lee and in the United States deserves access to affordable, quality health care; and

WHEREAS, the crisis in health care in the United States of America includes rising health care costs, increased insurance costs, and out of pocket medical expenses; and

WHEREAS, the United States poverty rate is increasing, as employee layoffs and outsourcing of the workforce is increasing; and

WHEREAS, many of the Borough of Fort Lee residents as well as thousands of Bergen County residents continue to lack health insurance in 2011; and

WHEREAS, those insured now often experience burdensome medical debt and sometimes life-threatening delays in obtaining health care; and

WHEREAS, one half of the bankruptcies are due to illness or medical bills; and

WHEREAS, the complex bureaucracy arising from our system of fragmented, for-profit, multi-payer system of health care financing consumes approximately thirty percent (30%) of United States health care spending; and

WHEREAS, rationing health care according to ability to pay has diminished the overall health of our citizens to the point at which the United States ranks shameful low at 37<sup>th</sup> in quality by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, United States Representative John Conyers has introduced HR 676, the United States National Health Insurance Act, in the United States House of Representatives in the present Congress, and this bill would provide a universal, comprehensive, single-payer system of high-quality national health insurance,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee hereby endorses Congressman Conyers legislation, HR 676, "Expanded and Improved Medicare For All", and will work to educate our community on the importance of this legislation and that copies of this Resolution be sent to State Senators Frank Lautenberg and Robert Menendez, and Congressman Steve Rothman; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent by the Borough of Fort Lee to the Governor, District 38 Legislators and the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders.