



Advocating for and gathering stage managers to share information since 1982

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Resolution in Support of the Medicare for All Act of 2019

The Stage Managers' Association (SMA), representing approximately 1300 stage managers across the United States, is the only professional organization for working stage managers. Our mission is to recognize, advocate for, and provide continuing education and networking opportunities for our members.

Whereas the number of Americans without health insurance is still nearly 30 million, while more than 40 million Americans remain underinsured, despite important gains made since the implementation of the Affordable Care Act; (1)

Whereas rationing health care according to ability to pay has diminished the overall health of our citizens to the point that the United States ranks last among industrialized nations in health outcomes, and as many as 30,000 people in the United States die each year due to inadequate health care; (2)

Whereas health care is a human right as declared by the United Nations in 1948 in Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (3)

Whereas the Medicare for All Act of 2019 would provide national health insurance for every person in the United States for all necessary medical care, including prescription drugs; hospital, surgical and outpatient services; primary and preventive care; emergency services; reproductive care; dental and vision care; and long-term care; (4)

Whereas the Medicare for All Act of 2019 would provide coverage without copays, deductibles, or other out-of-pocket costs; greatly reduce bureaucracy; protect the doctor-patient relationship; ensure that patients have a choice of doctors; and save millions in taxpayer dollars now spent on premiums that provide often inadequate health insurance coverage for government employees; (5)

Whereas every member of the Stage Managers' Association deserves high quality health care; (6)

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has shuttered the performing arts industry making it practically impossible for SMA members to earn employer-based health insurance benefits, as there have been few employment opportunities in entertainment since March 2020; (7)

Whereas the quality of life for the members of the Stage Managers' Association will be vastly improved by the passage and implementation of the Medicare for All Act of 2019, which will allow SMA members to get the ongoing health care they need, instead of waiting until they have a medical emergency that could upend their lives, as well as further burden local resources; (8)

Resolved, that the Stage Managers' Association:

1. enthusiastically supports the Medicare for All Act of 2019 (H.R. 1384 and S. 1129) as may be amended;
2. calls on our federal legislators to work toward its immediate enactment, assuring appropriate and efficient health care for all residents of the United States; and
3. expresses its enthusiastic support for any state legislation that creates Medicare for All within the state and calls upon state legislators to work toward its immediate enactment.