

Peralta Community College District
Resolution 11/12-7
Supporting Senate Bill 810, the California Universal Health Care Act

WHEREAS, The California Universal Health Care Act, also known as SB 810 will provide comprehensive affordable health coverage to all California residents through a single public insurance system, like Medicare; and

WHEREAS, United States of America remains the only major industrial country without national health insurance; and,

WHEREAS, Skyrocketing health care costs are creating serious problems for employers and employees by undermining wages and pensions, escalating the number of uninsured and underinsured, and placing a significant strain on public health and public dollars; and,

WHEREAS, health insurance costs are a major strain the annual budget of the Peralta Community College District and on the pocketbooks of our students and their families; and

WHEREAS, health insurance costs continue to rise rapidly and have forced the Peralta Colleges to choose between providing adequate pay and benefits for our employees versus classes and services for our students; and

WHEREAS, regular access to health care can only help improve both student well-being and student success in their studies;

WHEREAS, Approval of SB 810 will provide reliable health care coverage in which eligibility is based on residency, instead of on employment or income, and all residents are covered; and,

WHEREAS, No California resident will lose his or her health insurance because of unaffordable insurance premiums, when they change or lose a job or graduate from college, or because they have a pre-existing medical condition; and,

WHEREAS, SB 810 is more efficient, eliminating waste by consolidating the functions of many insurance companies into one comprehensive insurance plan, saving the state and consumers billions of dollars of administrative costs in the first year alone; and,

WHEREAS, Under SB 810, California will use its purchasing power to buy prescription drugs and durable medical equipment in bulk saving California additional billions of dollars and making our health care system more reliable and secure by stabilizing the growth in health spending; and,

WHEREAS, SB 810 will continue needed cost controls with medical standards that used the best available medical sciences, and place an emphasis on preventive and primary care to improve California's overall health in a way that also saves billion of dollars; and,

WHEREAS, SB 810, consumers have total freedom to choose their personal primary care provider, and health care providers and facilities will receive fair reimbursement for all covered

service they provide; and,

WHEREAS, Coverage includes all care prescribed by a patient's health care provider that meets accepted standards of care and practice, including hospital, medical surgical, and mental health, dental and vision care, prescription drugs, and medical equipment such as hearing aids, emergency care, skilled nursing care after hospitalization, substance abuse recovery programs, health education and translations services, including services for those with hearing and vision impairments, transportation needed to access covered services, diagnostic testing, and hospice care; and,

WHEREAS, SB 810 is supported by, among other groups: California School Employees Association, California Teachers Association, California Federation of Teachers, California Alliance of Retired Americans, California Nurses Association, Single Payer Now, Health Care for All Californians, California One Care, Physicians for a National Health Plan – CA, Amnesty International, League of Women Voters, California Council of Churches, Progressive Democrats of America, Consumer Federation - CA, National Organization for Women - CA, Vision y Compromiso, Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, Dolores Huerta Foundation, California Health Professional Student Alliance, Courage Campaign

WHEREAS, SB 810 offers California a broad and clear vision for a remodeled health care system that will provide a high quality, affordable and reliable health care for all residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Peralta Community College Board of Trustees supports SB 810, the California Universal Health Care Act, and urges all the members of the State legislature to sponsor this critical bill; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Peralta Community College Board of Trustees hereby directs the Chancellor to communicate this support to the Governor, and the Bay Area state legislative delegation, and the California Community College League; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs the Chancellor to use the District's lobbying and advocacy resources to advance adoption of this legislation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of July, 2011 by unanimous Board vote, unless the Board minutes reflect otherwise.

Wise E. Allen

Secretary, Board of Trustees

Peralta Community College District