Resolution Supporting the National Day of Action for Medicare’s 50th Birthday

Whereas July 30, 2015 will mark the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Medicare Act; and

Whereas Medicare is our nation’s largest and most successful health insurance system serving the healthcare needs of almost 50 million older and disabled Americans; and

Whereas Medicare has been the most financially efficient health care system in the United States with administrative costs averaging only 2 percent of program outlays; and

Whereas Republican budget proposals attack Medicare; proposing to raise eligibility to age 67, and turn Medicare into a voucher program, endangering everyone’s health and financial security, as well as the Medicare program itself; and

Whereas Republican budget proposals that attack Medicare would dramatically increase retiree healthcare costs for Unions and State and Local governments; and

Whereas Medicare must be protected, improved, and expanded (PIE) so that it becomes Medicare for All (Single Payer) and covers all Americans; and

Whereas healthcare is a human right, and all Americans deserve affordable, comprehensive healthcare;

Therefore, be it Resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council supports the “Medicare Turns 50” national campaign to celebrate the success of the Medicare program; and

Be it Further Resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council, as part of the national campaign, will educate and mobilize the membership for the National Day of Action on 7/30/15, and will work to protect, improve, and expand Medicare, so that Medicare for All (Single Payer Healthcare) creates true, universal healthcare for all Americans; and

Be it Finally Resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council will assign a representative to attend the planning sessions of the Medicare Turns 50 Coalition (M50) and help mobilize for the event.

Submitted by Pilar Schiavo, CNA, and adopted unanimously by the San Francisco Labor Council on April 13, 2015.

Respectfully,

Tim Paulson
Executive Director