

PROCLAMATION

“Nevada for Health Care”

WHEREAS, Nevada, like the rest of the United States, faces a health care crisis caused by increasing numbers of uninsured people, skyrocketing costs and limited access, even for those who are insured, and unfair health disparities that hurt the well-being of our communities; and

WHEREAS, overall health care spending in Nevada has risen dramatically in recent years without corresponding improvements in access and quality; and

WHEREAS, from 1999 to 2004, the cost of health care expenditures in Nevada has increased 10%; and

WHEREAS, 496,000 Nevada residents have no insurance, including 101,000 children, an increase of 51% since 2000; and

WHEREAS, since 2000, average health insurance premiums for working Nevadans have risen 58%, a rate at least three times faster than average earnings; and

WHEREAS, health care disparities result in unequal access and care for minorities, particularly Hispanics in Nevada who are three times as likely to be uninsured and women who are one of the fastest growing groups of uninsured Nevadans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Marv Teixeira, Mayor of Carson City, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors urge all citizens to call on our elected officials to work together with consumers, businesses, and health care providers to ensure:

- *Quality, affordable health care for everyone, including the self-employed, unemployed, small business owners, the uninsured and underinsured, with a choice of doctors and plans, and without gaps in access or coverage;*
- *Fair financing in which employers, consumers, and the state, local and federal government share responsibility for health care costs;*
- *Controlled costs by providing quality care that is cost efficient and medically effective; and*
- *Preventative care as part of any benefit plan that promotes health and eliminates economic and racial disparities.*



Dated this 15th Day of November 2007

Marv Teixeira, Mayor