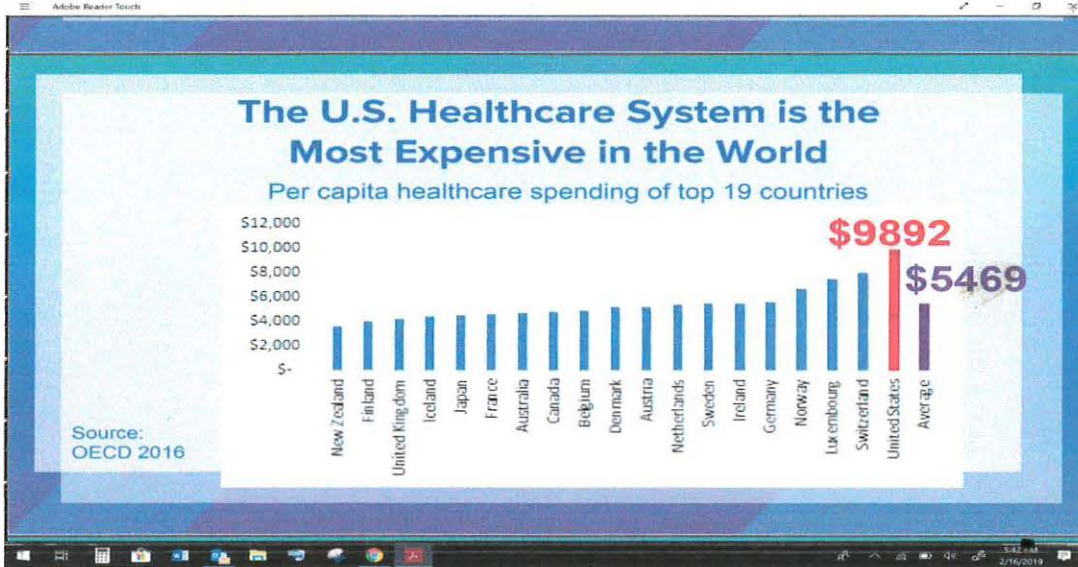
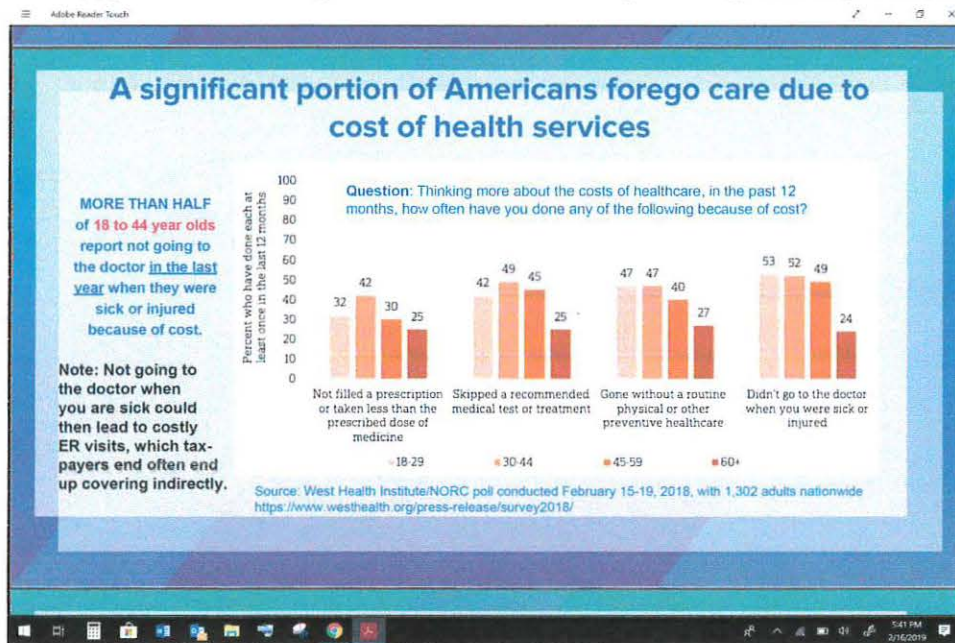


Resolution Calling for Chapel Hill Town Council to Endorse HR1384 Improved Medicare for All

Whereas, studies show that universal healthcare will not be achievable without serious downward pressure on out-of-control healthcare costs in the US. The has the highest costs in the world, spending on average double per capita what most other countries spend per capita, even as 12.5% of adults had no health insurance at all in the first half of 2018, which is worse than 2013 and is expected to rise as premiums increase without checks. (CDC) Only 8.5 million people got plans from healthcare.gov for 2019; and



Whereas, out-of-pocket costs for those with insurance is forcing them to delay care at extraordinary rates. More than half of 18-44 year olds did not get care in the 12 months preceding February 2018; and



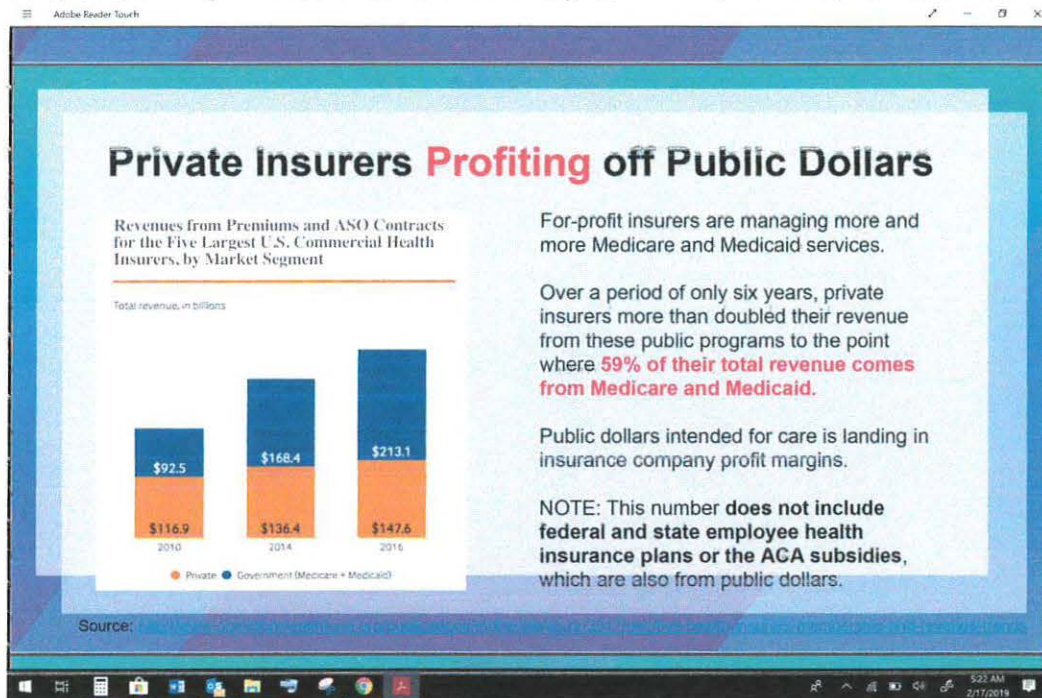
Whereas, 45% of adults age 19-64 are now underinsured, many of whom are on employer-based private insurance plans.

<https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/issue-briefs/2019/feb/health-insurance-coverage-eight-years-after-aca>

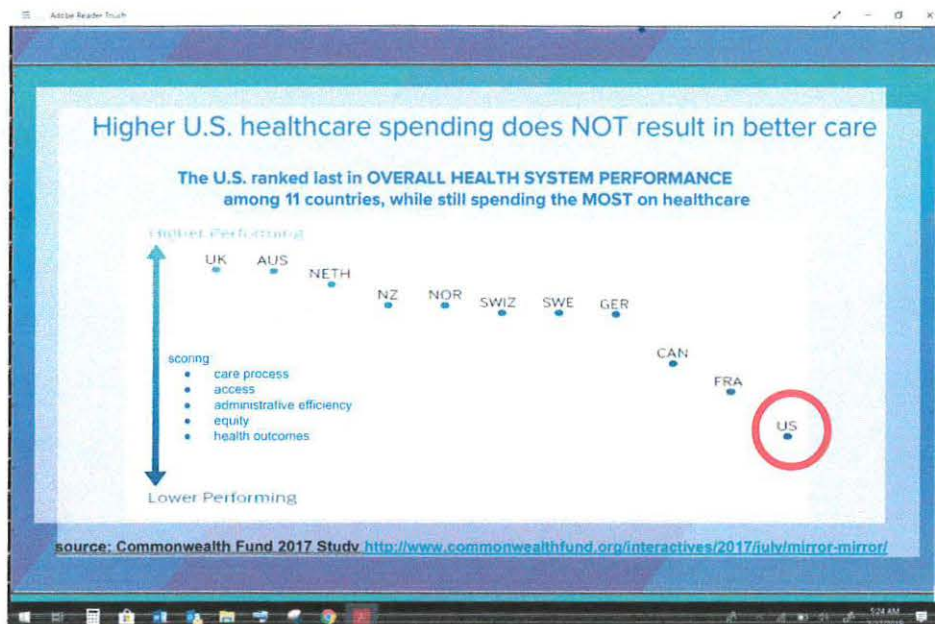
Whereas, the cost of health insurance continues to rise while workers wages and benefits continue to stagnate and fall. For example, in NC, one family of 3 on the 80/20 state health plan pays \$9600/year in premiums with with “non-profit” BCBSNC. Premiums are equal >13% of the household’s gross income, and that is at a pay substantially higher than NC’s teachers on the same plan. The family’s deductible is \$7500 and out-of-pocket maximum is \$29,340. With “good” employer-based insurance and an average annual income for NC, this family is one medical emergency away from financial ruin. (BCBSNC SHP 2019 80/20 plan)

Whereas, public dollars are used to subsidize private insurance companies to deny care. In NC, Medicaid is being transitioned in 2019 to private insurance companies, including Centene which is under investigation by the DOJ for Medicare and VA fraud. <https://www.axios.com/centene-faces-federal-investigation-over-medicare-claims-1513300566-95d6b302-e1fd-456c-92ff-009af262536c.html>
https://www.propublica.org/article/va-private-care-program-gave-companies-billions-and-vets-longer-waits?fbclid=IwAR1t6GaiyBRIMjEkUm0fc7M847HJCG5Hw9KpXmqj_gc89WXaHqP2AZ1PegY

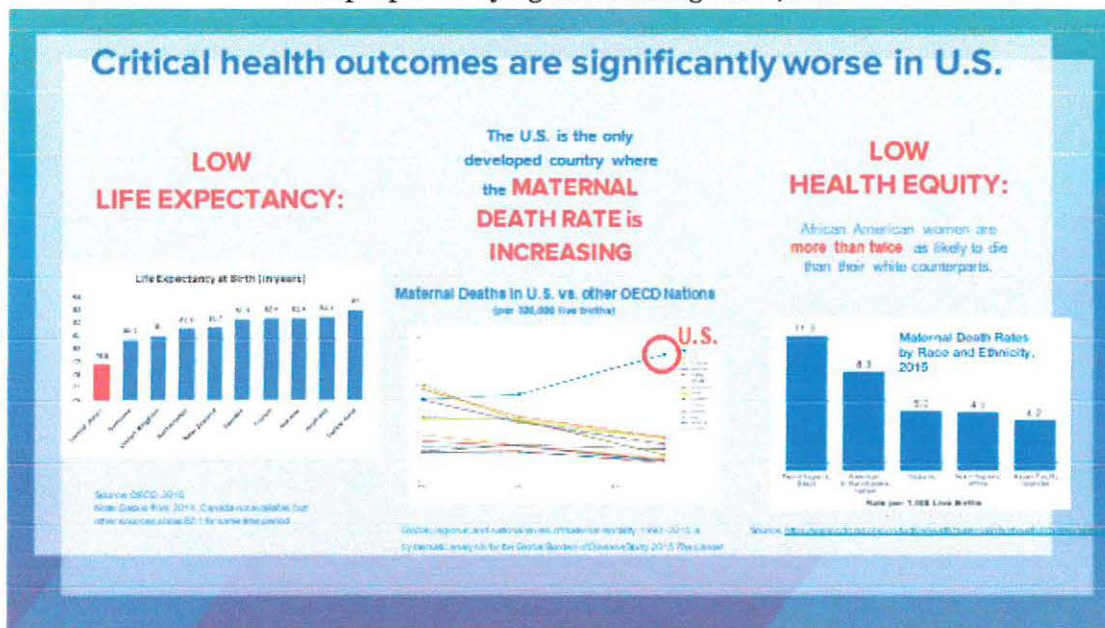
Whereas, nearly 60% of for-profit insurance revenue of Cigna, Anthem, Humana, Aetna, United Healthcare



Whereas, these high costs and meager coverage do not contribute to higher health outcomes with the United States ranking lowest in the world when compared to similar countries



And people are dying at increasing rates!; and



Whereas, the establishment of a Medicare for All single payer system in the United States will free millions of workers who are currently dependent on their employers for health insurance. These workers will not only have greater security in access to care for themselves and their families, but greater flexibility to change jobs and professions or start their own business to suit their unique skill sets. 19% of people age 50-64 say they are staying in current jobs rather than change or retire because of health insurance needs, even as many young people out of college are unable to occupy these jobs; and

<https://knowridge.com/2019/01/poll-older-americans-really-worry-about-health-insurance/>

Whereas over 1,000 national regional and local unions, state labor federations and central labor councils have endorsed Medicare for All and organizations like the National Nurses United, the Labor Campaign for Single-Payer and Physicians for a National Health Program have made single-payer a priority in their work such that

the campaign represents a major opportunity to build relationships with and forge solidarity with the leading edge of the labor movement; and

Whereas, abolishing the health insurance industry will require an unprecedented level of mobilization and organization; and

Therefore be it resolved that Chapel Hill Town Council endorses HR1384 - The Medicare For All Act of 2019 which adheres to the requirements below.

1. **A single program** — not a patchwork of multi-payer state and federal systems.
2. **Comprehensive coverage** — *all* medically necessary services requiring a medical professional will be covered.
3. **Free at the point of service** — no more shifting costs onto the sick: no premiums, no copays, no deductibles, no co-insurance.
4. **Universal coverage** — coverage for all U.S. residents.
5. **Jobs** — replacement and severance for those affected by the transition.