

RESOLUTION NO. 4 (2016)

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING AMENDMENT 69; THE AMENDMENT WOULD REPLACE THE CURRENT MARKET-BASED HEALTH INSURANCE SYSTEM WITH A GOVERNMENT-RUN SINGLE PAYER SYSTEM THAT WOULD COST AT LEAST \$25 BILLION PER YEAR.

WHEREAS, Amendment 69, on the Colorado ballot in 2016, would replace the current market-based health insurance system with a government-run single payer system that will cost at least \$25 billion per year; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 69 would levy a new 10 percent tax on payroll and non-payroll income, giving Colorado the highest state income taxes in the nation and making our state far less competitive for jobs and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 69 is an excessively costly experiment that would double the size of state government, and threatens our economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 69 will hit small business owners hardest, since these Coloradans would pay the full 10 percent in new employment taxes plus an additional 10 percent tax on all non-payroll income; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 69 raises serious governance concerns as it will be operated by a 21-member board with no accountability to the governor or legislature and with unilateral power to decide benefits, negotiate prices and reimbursement rates, and raise taxes when the initial \$25 billion in annual revenue proves insufficient; and

WHEREAS, the unilateral power to raise taxes in the future without a vote of the people is an unacceptable grant of power to a state governing body;

WHEREAS, Amendment 69 poses severe risks to the accessibility and affordability of health care in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 69 would make Colorado the only state in the nation with a single-payer health insurance model, which model has been shown to result in the loss of freedom of choice by the patient in determining the course of their medical treatment, as well as the unacceptable, strict allocation of medical resources by the governing board; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 69 would be embedded in the state Constitution, making it extremely hard to amend or repeal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council for the City of Craig, Colorado strongly opposes Amendment 69 as it is contrary to the best interests of the citizens and taxpayers of the City of Craig.

ADOPTED this 9th day of August, 2016.

Ray Beck, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathy Larson, City Clerk