

Should this item be pulled from the consent agenda the following motion is suggested:

POSSIBLE MOTION

I MOVE TO approve Resolution 2017-04 on first and final reading.

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-04**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA, ALASKA
SUPPORTING THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT**

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, for calendar year 2015, 407 residents of Sitka enrolled in a healthcare plan through the Affordable Care Act Open Marketplace; and

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, for calendar year 2016, 432 residents of Sitka enrolled in a healthcare plan through the Affordable Care Act Open Marketplace; and

WHEREAS, According to incomplete data available from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, for calendar year 2017, 379 residents of Sitka have enrolled in a healthcare plan through the Affordable Care Act Open Marketplace; 89 percent of whom received financial assistance in paying for their coverage; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska confirms that 3,303 Southeast Alaskans have signed up for the Affordable Care Act's Expanded Medicaid for adults ages 19-64 between September 1, 2015 and December 28, 2016. Prior to September 1, 2015 this group of adults could not get affordable health coverage otherwise; and

WHEREAS, Between 2010 and 2015, prior to the full implementation of the Affordable Care Act and expansion of Medicaid in Alaska, Sitka Community Hospital incurred \$3,136,000 in expenses for charity care, averaging \$522,666 each year; and

WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2016, during the first year of full implementation of the Affordable Care Act and expansion of Medicaid in Alaska, Sitka Community Hospital incurred \$59,280 in expenses for charity care, representing a decrease in expenses of more than 88.6 percent over the average for the previous six years; and

WHEREAS, if current trends continue under the Affordable Care Act, Sitka Community Hospital expects to incur approximately \$30,000 in expenses for charity care in Fiscal Year 2017; and

WHEREAS, in addition to contributing to the financial stability of Sitka Community Hospital and Mount Edgecumbe Hospital, the Affordable Care Act has improved health and reduced financial strain for hundreds of residents of Sitka by making health care affordable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska by this resolution is in support of retaining the Affordable Care Act in its entirety, unless and until it can be demonstrated by clear and convincing evidence from a reputable nonpartisan source that alternative legislation will be able to provide an equivalent level of affordable coverage for residents of Sitka.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, on this 14th day of February, 2017.

Matthew Hunter, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sara Peterson, CMC
Municipal Clerk

1st and final reading 02/14/17