

**Endorsement of the
Family and Business Health Care Security Act
HB 1660 – SB 400**

Adopted by LCDC Executive Committee, September 24, 2009

Whereas, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, over 1.5 million people have no health insurance, another 2.0 million are underinsured and, due to the economic crisis, those numbers are increasing;

Whereas, the recession threatens the economic health of Lancaster County due to lower tax revenues and rising costs, in particular the enormous increases in health care premiums for the County's employees and retirees;

Whereas, the Family and Business Health Care Security Act, SB400 and HB1660, provides affordable, comprehensive health care for every Pennsylvanian with services covered to include primary care, inpatient, outpatient and emergency hospital care, prescription drugs, durable medical equipment, hearing, dental and vision care, chiropractic treatment, mental health services, and long-term care;

Whereas, SB400 and HB1660 would replace profit-driven insurers, with a publicly funded, privately run system, paid for by using existing state and federal funds, a 3% earnings tax and a 10% payroll tax; eliminating premiums, co-pays and caps on benefits;

Whereas, the City of Lancaster, the various municipalities, the County government, and the school boards of Lancaster County would have realized more than 62 million dollars savings in premiums paid on behalf of its employees and retirees in 2008 alone with costs expected to continue rising annually, threatening the very solvency of many of these entities.

Whereas, passage of this legislation would provide a model for the U.S. and would attract business to Pennsylvania;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Lancaster County Democratic Committee calls upon all elected Lancaster County and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania officials to endorse the funding of an Economic Impact Study of the bill and to support the passage of HB 1660 and SB 400 at the earliest opportunity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to all elected Lancaster County officials, to all members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly and State Senate, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania.