

RESOLUTION NO. 39-17

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA IN SUPPORT OF CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 687 (SKINNER) WHICH WILL GIVE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CALIFORNIA THE AUTHORITY TO OVERSEE AND CONSENT TO THE SALE AND OR CLOSURE OF NON-PROFIT HOSPITALS

WHEREAS, the number of emergency room visits in California has increased by 27% between 1996-2009; and,

WHEREAS, in 2014 California received an F grade for access to emergency care due to the lack of available beds in emergency rooms. The study was conducted by the American College of Emergency Physicians; and,

WHEREAS, a study published in the Journal of Health Affairs found that a quarter of all hospital admissions between 1999-2010 occurred near an emergency department closure, and that admissions had a 5% higher chance of in-patient mortality (10% for patients under the age of 65). The study also found that African Americans, Latinos, women, people under 65, and those who were uninsured or on Medicaid were more likely to be affected by emergency department closures; and,

WHEREAS, California has the lowest number of emergency departments per capita in the country, with only 6.7 per 1 million people; and,

WHEREAS, African Americans, Latinos, women, people under 65, and those who were uninsured or on Medicaid are more likely to be affected by emergency department closures; and,

WHEREAS, the closure of Doctors Medical Center in April of 2015 caused adverse health impacts to Richmond residents and put a significant strain on Kaiser Permanente Richmond Medical Center; and,

WHEREAS, in 2016 the Kaiser Permanente Richmond Medical Center on average received 50-55 patients per day; and,

WHEREAS, the closure of non-profit hospitals will result in backups in ambulance response time to emergency calls, emergency rooms becoming more congested, and emergency rooms prioritizing patients based on their needs; and,

WHEREAS, SB 687, introduced by State Senator Nancy Skinner, would require any nonprofit hospital that operates or controls a health facility to write notice to and obtain consent of the Attorney General prior to a reduction or elimination of the level of emergency services; and,

WHEREAS, SB 687 would also give the Attorney General the authority to act on the public's behalf by assessing the negative impacts that a closure or reduction would have on the community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Richmond hereby supports SB 687 and directs the City Clerk to send a copy of said resolution to Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, Assemblymember Tony Thurmond, Senator Nancy Skinner and Governor Jerry Brown.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held April 18, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, McLaughlin, Myrick, Willis,
Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor Butt.

NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: None.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

TOM BUTT

Mayor

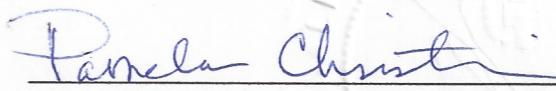
Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER

City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa } : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 39-17**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on April 18, 2017.


Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond

