



National Lieutenant Governors Association

1 **Resolution On the Importance of Addressing Financial Toxicity**

2 **WHEREAS**, the majority of Americans have at least one chronic condition¹, and

3 **WHEREAS**, individuals with chronic conditions experience disproportionate rates of accumulated
4 financial stress resulting from the cost of health care coverage and services, and

5 **WHEREAS**, financially burdensome spending on chronic disease management is disproportionately
6 experienced by communities of color and low-income communities², and

7 **WHEREAS**, high out-of-pocket costs for health care services and prescription drugs, especially for
8 patients with chronic conditions, negatively impacts treatment adherence, and

9 **WHEREAS**, studies show a relationship between accumulation of direct and indirect health care costs on
10 quality of life and health outcomes, and

11 **WHEREAS**, the majority of bankruptcies in the United States are due to health care costs³, and

12 **WHEREAS**, connecting people with chronic conditions with skills and resources to manage their health
13 care costs is a strategy to prevent more expensive delayed care, and

14 **WHEREAS**, addressing the root causes of social needs, such as food and housing insecurity, that
15 negatively impact patient wellbeing and increase patient and health system costs is important to improving
16 patient financial security and treatment adherence, and

17 **WHEREAS**, when patients can afford their treatment they experience improved health outcomes, and
18 ultimately save money on their health care by preventing more acute, emergent care in the future.

19 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association hereby
20 recognizes that reducing financial toxicity and furthering financial security, especially in populations with
21 high-cost health care needs, is necessary to further health equity, improve mental and physical health
22 outcomes, and reduce health care costs.

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Prevalence of Multiple Chronic Conditions Among US Adults, 2018,
https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2020/20_0130.htm

² Health Affairs, The United States Can Reduce Socioeconomic Disparities By Focusing On Chronic Diseases,
<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/forefront.20170817.061561/>

³ American Journal of Public Health, Medical Bankruptcy: Still Common Despite the Affordable Care Act,
<https://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/10.2105/AJPH.2018.304901>



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ADOPTED, this day, the _____ of March, 2022.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Kevin Meyer (R – Alaska), Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera (D – Colorado)