



City of Seattle

News Release

City Attorney Peter Holmes
Council President Richard Conlin
Councilmember Sally Bagshaw
Councilmember Tim Burgess
Councilmember Sally Clark
Councilmember Jean Godden
Councilmember Bruce Harrell
Councilmember Nick Licata
Councilmember Mike O'Brien
Councilmember Tom Rasmussen

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Laura Lockard, Council Communications
(206) 684-8159, Cell: (206) 650-6692
Kathy Mulady, City Attorney Communications (206) 684-8602

City of Seattle supports historic health care reform

City wants state to withdraw from lawsuit joined by Rob McKenna

SEATTLE – The Seattle City Council and City Attorney Pete Holmes took a united stand today opposing Attorney General Rob McKenna's participation in a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the historic national legislation that will dramatically reform health care in the United States.

Seattle's elected officials oppose McKenna's involvement as contrary to the interest of the people of Washington State and the City of Seattle.

This afternoon the Seattle City Council passed [Resolution 31196](#) supporting enactment of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for health care reform.

The City's resolution also urges the State Legislature to restrict the Attorney General's budget authority to prevent any state funds from being spent opposing federal health care reform. The united front in Seattle supports the strong stance taken by Governor Christine Gregoire, who has made it clear that she will actively oppose the lawsuit filed in Florida.

"This historic act by President Obama and Congress should in no way be undermined by a partisan political agenda," stated Seattle City Council President Richard Conlin. "Seattle citizens who lack health care insurance or who are underinsured need this necessary and reasonable step toward providing health care for all citizens."

"Mr. McKenna's attack on the health care reform bill is antidemocratic and out of touch with the needs of Seattle and Washington State residents," said City Attorney Pete Holmes. "This resolution expresses the will of Seattle voters and urges the State Attorney General to stop his participation in a cynical partisan lawsuit in our names or from using public funds against the landmark federal

legislation.”

The City of Seattle provides health services to seniors, to youth, to people who are homeless and people with low incomes, who will benefit greatly from the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. This new federal law will positively impact our local community health providers, allowing them to serve more people.

Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn expressed support for the resolution and said he will sign it.

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