

**KALISPELL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION CERTIFICATE**

WHEREAS, numerous reports and studies authored by the University of Montana, including well respected consulting firms, have independently demonstrated the HELP Act has significantly benefited more than 95,000 Montanans who have received health care coverage as of October 1, 2018, representing 9.3% of our state's population; and

WHEREAS, the HELP Act has improved health outcomes and led to early detection of disease and ensured 7,026 women received breast cancer screenings, averted 2,313 possible cases of colon cancer, provided 28,683 patients with outpatient mental health services, delivered outpatient substance abuse treatment to 7,146 adults, in total 86,995 adults received preventive services from HELP Act benefits; and

WHEREAS, in Flathead County, more than 8,800 residents representing almost 10% of the population are now receiving health care coverage under the HELP Act, resulting in 8,987 preventative primary care visits; and

WHEREAS, hospitals across Montana have seen uninsured rates reduced 48% and more importantly, Kalispell Regional Medical Center has remained financially viable due to the 76% reduction in uncompensated care levels; and

WHEREAS, in Flathead County, 60.8% of businesses employ workers enrolled in Montana Medicaid and statewide, the legislation has improved labor force participation by 6 to 9%; and














WHEREAS, the HELP Act has significantly stimulated Montana's economy according to the University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research, which reported that as the result of the HELP Act, 5,000 new jobs, \$270 million in personal income and \$500 million in additional economic output has been added to Montana's economy. Additionally, the HELP Act is expected to generate \$1.2 billion in personal income and \$2.6 billion in economic output or new sales; and

WHEREAS, the HELP Act has served as an economic incentive for small businesses unable to provide health insurance by making coverage available for working Montanans and generating \$36 million in state budget savings by using federal funds to pay for state programs, freeing up state tax dollars for other priorities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF KALISPELL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER endorses the HELP Act and supports repealing the sunset of the Act and further recognizes our patients, caregivers, and the citizens of Flathead County have a compelling interest in ensuring our hospital remains financially viable and an economic engine for our surrounding area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF KALISPELL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER strongly requests our legislative delegation and the Montana Legislature to repeal the sunset of the HELP Act and protect health care coverage for almost 100,000 Montanans and the \$2.6 billion economic engine it has created.

APPROVED ON THIS DAY, 31st day of January, 2019, BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF KALISPELL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER.

NAME	SIGNATURE
<u>Dennis Sabo, Chair of Board</u>	
<u>Barbra Bennett, Vice Chair of Board</u>	
<u>Todd Bergland, MD - Trustee</u>	
<u>Pete Fisher, MD - Trustee</u>	
<u>John Flink - Trustee</u>	
<u>Christopher Gill, MD - Trustee</u>	
<u>Michael Goguen - Trustee</u>	
<u>Marcia Johnson - Trustee</u>	
<u>Charles Ludden - Trustee</u>	
<u>Henry Ricklefs - Trustee</u>	
<u>Elizabeth Schilling, MD - Trustee</u>	
<u>Jim Strainer - Trustee</u>	
<u>Carl Tinlin, DO - Trustee</u>	
<u>Bob White - Trustee</u>	