



Signature Report

August 15, 2000

Motion 10991

Proposed No. 2000-0462.1

Sponsors Fimia, Nickels and Pullen

1 A MOTION to support local initiatives designed to
2 establish a coordinated vision and innovative strategic plan
3 for the integration of complementary and alternative health
4 care delivery in King County.

5

6

7

 WHEREAS, the King County integrated health care 2010 project will be a two-
8 phased, community-based process that will bring together major stakeholders in a
9 collaborative environment to craft and implement a ten-year strategic plan, and

10

 WHEREAS, many forces make 2000 an ideal time to reinvigorate this task:
11 escalating demand for complementary and alternative medicine; growing data supporting
12 its effectiveness; expanding networks of groups and agencies addressing the integration
13 of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) and conventional medicine (CM);
14 and a strong history of health care innovation and leadership by the county, and

15

 WHEREAS, among the potential issues to be addressed in a coordinated way are:

16

 Research;

17

 Clinical practice, quality of care and delivery systems;

18 Underserved and special needs populations;
19 Professional and public education;
20 Public health and environmental health;
21 Regulation and access to products;
22 Federal, state and local benefit programs and regulations; and
23 Reimbursement and insurance, and

24 WHEREAS, in February 1999, a meeting, hosted by metropolitan King County
25 council districts one and nine, laid the groundwork for a public forum to address where
26 King County would like to take natural medicine by the year 2010, and

27 WHEREAS, metropolitan King County is in a position to initiate and facilitate an
28 effective process. Many factors contribute to this moment of opportunity:

29 The *Puget Sound region* has a national reputation for leadership in health care
30 reform, including the Washington State “every category of provider” law, which became
31 effective in 1996;

32 The *Northwest region* enjoys national visibility for education, leadership, clinical
33 services, and research in both CAM and CM. University of Washington, Bastyr
34 University, Northwest Institute of Oriental Medicine, Seattle Midwifery School, Western
35 States Chiropractic College, several massage schools and others are located in the region;

36 *Consumer usage* of complementary and alternative medicine is rising nationally
37 and in King County. Studies indicate that the rate of consumer usage of CAM increased
38 from 34 percent in 1993 to 40 to 69 percent in 1998. The CAM credentialed workforce
39 will grow by 88 percent between 1994 and 2010. The CM workforce using or referring

40 for CAM therapies is also growing steadily; some studies suggest referral and usage rates
41 range from 7.9 percent to 73 percent;

42 The *metropolitan King County council* has a demonstrated commitment to
43 innovating and advocating for the integration of natural medicine, establishing the King
44 County natural medicine clinic in 1995, the first publicly funded integrated natural
45 medicine clinic in the country. The recent appointment of a naturopathic physician to the
46 Harborview Hospital Board of Trustees is another example; and

47 The *King County board of health* has demonstrated its recognition of the
48 importance of natural medicine by being the only such board in the country with a
49 naturopathic physician as a member and by creating a task force investigating natural
50 medicine integration into public health programming, and

51 WHEREAS, funding for phase I of the project will be provided by stakeholder
52 participants and sponsors;

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

54 The metropolitan King County council supports the strategic planning efforts of
55 the King County integrated health care 2010 project through participation of King County
56 councilmembers and staff on the project steering committee and through appropriate

Motion 10991

57

58

departmental assistance should any or all of the 2010 initiatives receive grant funding.

59

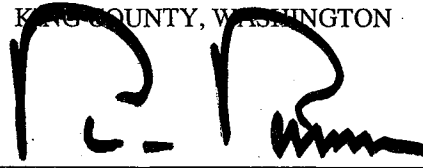
Motion 10991 was introduced on 7/31/00 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 8/14/00, by the following vote:

Yes: 11 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Miller, Ms. Fimia, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Pullen, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Mr. Vance and Mr. Irons

No: 0

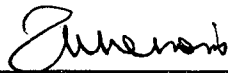
Excused: 2 - Ms. Sullivan and Mr. Nickels

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Pete von Reichbauer, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments None