



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

November 6, 2001

Motion 11328

Proposed No. 2001-0536.1

Sponsors Sullivan

1 A MOTION requesting the United States Congress to include
2 within a national economic stimulus package a temporary increase
3 in the Medicaid Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP);
4 providing states additional funds to cover the costs of increased
5 Medicaid enrollment resulting from a downturn in the economy.

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8 WHEREAS, The Medicaid financing system is designed so states and the federal
9 government jointly cover the costs of health insurance for low-income people, and

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 WHEREAS, despite the economic downturn affecting Washington State, the
federal Medicaid matching rate for Washington is slated to decrease by 0.33 percent to
50.37 percent, causing a reduction of eighteen million five hundred thousand dollars in
federal funds to the state of Washington in Fiscal Year 2002, and

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 WHEREAS, local unemployment is expected to increase as Boeing, one of King
county's largest employers is scheduled to lay off thirty thousand employees, and

16 WHEREAS, Washington state's Medicaid expenditures will likely rise more
17 rapidly than had earlier been anticipated as more workers are laid off and their families
18 become income eligible for Medicaid, and

19 WHEREAS, Governor Gary Locke has directed the state of Washington's
20 Department of Social and Health Services to reduce their budget by four hundred seventy
21 million dollars to account for a loss in state revenues due to a slumping local economy,
22 and

23 WHEREAS, each percentage point increase in the federal Medicaid matching rate
24 will generate approximately fifty-five million dollars per year to the state of Washington,
25 bolstering state health insurance programs, freeing up state funds otherwise needed for
26 Medicaid and helping to avoid cuts in other budget areas, including areas affecting
27 counties and local communities such as public health and treatment for mentally ill and
28 chemically dependent persons, and

29 WHEREAS, a temporary increase in the Medicaid Federal Medical Assistance
30 Percentage is one of the highest legislative priorities of the National Governors
31 Association, and

32 WHEREAS, Congress is in the process of considering an economic stimulus
33 package;

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

35 The King County council respectfully requests that Congress include in any

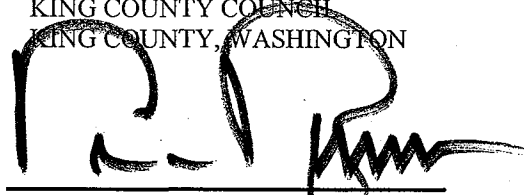
Motion 11328

36 national economic stimulus package an increase in the Medicaid Federal Medical
37 Assistance Percentage.
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Motion 11328 was introduced on 11/5/01 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/5/01, by the following vote:

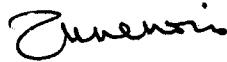
Yes: 12 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Miller, Ms. Fimia, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz,
Mr. McKenna, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Pullen, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Mr.
Thomas and Mr. Irons
No: 0
Excused: 1 - Mr. Nickels

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Pete von Reichbauer, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments None