

**Southern Health Association
Resolution
National Health Care Reform**

WHEREAS, access to adequate health care is a right which should be available to all Americans; and

WHEREAS, 45 million Americans have no health insurance and estimates of the total uninsured and underinsured are as much as 85 million; and

WHEREAS, the number of uninsured rose 1.4 million between 2002 to 2003; and

WHEREAS, health care cost are increasing at an alarming rate, with the Federal, State and Local Governments spending \$30 billion annually to compensate services for the uninsured; and

WHEREAS, a reformed national health care system must design a national health program that provides every American universal and equitable access to a full range of health care services and benefits; and

WHEREAS, a reformed national health care system must ensure a major role for a strengthened public health system at the local, state and federal level; and

WHEREAS, cost for health care in a new reformed system should grow no greater than the economy; and

WHEREAS, public health services have been shown to be the most cost effective and efficient way to prevent disease and disabilities; and

WHEREAS, there must be a strong emphasis on primary care and preventive health services and also include incentives to entice more medical student to go into primary care; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Southern Health Association fully supports a reformed national health care program that will ensure universal access to primary health care and public health services for all Americans; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the current public health system be strengthened and utilized for the delivery of public health services, prevention protection and health promotion activities at all levels of government; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that federal, state and local governments provide expanded funding to support the provision of public health services.

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Affiliate States Governor, the Secretary of the Cabinet of Health Services, the Commissioner for the Department of Public Health and members of the General assembly.

Ted Hanekamp, President
Southern Health Association

May 5, 2006
Date