RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH CARE COALITION’S EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY FROM THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY

WHEREAS, skyrocketing healthcare costs are creating serious problems for patients, workers, employers, and local governments throughout California by restricting access to care, escalating the number of uninsured and underinsured, undermining wages and pensions, and potentially contributing to economic stagnation; and

WHEREAS, the healthcare delivery system is characterized by a bewildering variation in provider costs and charges and lacks a standard definition for the quality of services; and

WHEREAS, health plans and insurance companies have reaped enormous profits from their premiums and other charges, yet they fail to stabilize costs or to develop a reliable base standard of services delivered; and

WHEREAS, an opportunity exists for consumers to unite and to use their combined strength to fight excessive costs and unjustified charges while demanding quality healthcare from healthcare providers; and

WHEREAS, the California Health Care Coalition consists of a growing network of health funds, union leaders, and employers dedicated to implementing effective solutions to the health care cost crisis and the pressures it places on profits, wages, retirement funds, health access, and the quality of care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Oakland hereby supports the California Health Care Coalition’s efforts to encourage greater accountability and transparency from the health care industry.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, ________________________________.

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES– BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, REID, QUAN, KERNIGHAN AND PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES–

ABSENT–

ABSTENTION–

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California

JUN 07 2005