

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington

AMENDED RESOLUTION NO. 22-004

A RESOLUTION OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL REGARDING WASHINGTON'S LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Washington State Legislature passed, and Governor Inslee signed into law HB 1087 establishing the Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Program (Trust Program) in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, the Trust Program provides long-term services and supports benefits to persons who have paid into the Trust Program for a specific amount of time and have been determined to need certain assistance with daily activities; and

WHEREAS, the Trust Program is funded by withholding a premium of 0.58 percent of wages for workers in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Washington State Legislature passed, and Governor Inslee signed into law HB 1323 allowing workers to be exempted from the Trust Program if they have purchased long-term care insurance prior to November 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, private long-term care insurance options have been limited due to the influx of applications and uncertainty of longevity of policies; and

WHEREAS, workers enrolled in the Trust Program must pay into the program for as long as they work in the State of Washington but are not entitled to the benefit if they move out-of-state; and

WHEREAS, there is no guarantee that premiums will not be increased in the future with no option for opting out of the Program; and

WHEREAS, Governor Inslee and Legislative leaders have expressed their desire to delay implementation of the program;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Snohomish County Council encourages the Washington State Legislature to delay implementation of the Long-Term Care Insurance Program consistent with implementation at the state level; and

FURTHERMORE, the Snohomish County Council encourages the Washington State Legislature to adopt legislation to allow for an extended period for workers to opt-out of the Washington Long-Term Care Insurance Program consistent with implementation at the state level.

APPROVED this 12th day of January, 2022.

Megan Dunn

Council Chair

Stephanie Wright

Councilmember

Nate Nehring Councilmember Lored Mead

Council Vice-Chair

Sam Low

Councilmember

Elena Lao, CMC

Asst. Clerk of the Council