

Health

Resolution on Martin Luther King Junior Harbor Hospital
July 12, 2007

SA - yes

of you
RN - OK

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MAINTING THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JUNIOR HARBOR HOSPITAL OPEN AND ESTABLISHING A COMPETENT, TERTIARY, COMPREHENSIVE, AND AFFORDABLE MEDICAL CARE FACILITY IN PLACE OF THE GROSSLY FAILED LOS ANGELES COUNTY MANAGED MARTIN LUTHER KING JUNIOR HARBOR HOSPITAL IN SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES.

Whereas, the multicultural coalition known as the *South Central- Willowbrook Coalition for Quality Healthcare*, comprised of California LULAC, the Latino Leadership Roundtable, Project Islamic HOPE, Los Angeles Humanity Foundation, and segments of the faith community, which represents the richness and complexity of today's service area residents, be included in all official dialogues and consultations regarding the LA County's and State of California's deliberations and community input sessions dealing with the future policy plans of the hospital,

Whereas, the California Department of Health Services, in a 32-page inspection document, detailing findings from nine inspections between October 2004 and June 2007, concluded that the hospital has failed to ensure the competency of its nurses and the protection of its patients,

Whereas, the King - Harbor Hospital is a shadow of its once potent mission to serve the South Central Los Angeles community, has ended its physician training programs and reduced the number of beds to 48 from about 250, thus downsized care by 80%,

Whereas, King-Harbor Hospital served 48,000 emergency room patients in South Central Los Angeles last year as a trauma center and now functions as a referral station for patients who cannot afford the time to go to another facility because of the emergent nature of their illness,

Whereas, the **MOST** recent death of Edith Isabel Rodriguez, a 43-year-old woman who died May 9 after writhing on the floor of the emergency room lobby for 45 minutes as employees ignored her, be the last senseless death due to staff negligence,

Whereas, the hospital serves a community of 1.6 million people, the majority of those being of Latino ancestry, the reduction in services or closure of this facility will add an extreme and cruel hardship to an already challenged community and therefore any temporary closure and transition of new ownership be conducted with all due manner of humanity and compassion owed,

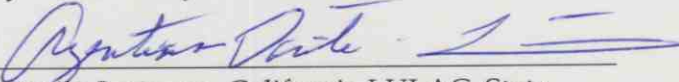
Whereas, any new management that is interested in running the Medical Center will only be granted Coalition support if such organization pledges to work positively with Labor to honor and respect those employees who are an asset to the mission and within the collective bargaining agreements and culture required,

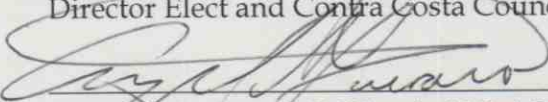
NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE 2007 LULAC NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:

1. SUPPORTS AND ENDORSES CALIFORNIA LULAC AND THE *South Central- Willowbrook Coalition for Quality Healthcare and its leadership*, AS OUR OFFICIAL COALITION AND VOICE.
2. ENDORSES THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE COALITION, TO KEEP THE HOSPITAL OPEN AND TO USHER IN COMPETENT MANAGEMENT OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MEDICAL CENTER BY KEEPING FUNDING INTACT TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OR PLACE HOSPITAL IN PRIVATE HANDS.

3. ADVOCATES FOR COMPETENT, COMPREHENSIVE AND AFFORDABLE QUALITY HEALTHCARE FOR ALL RESIDENTS WITHIN THE SERVICE SCOPE OF KING-HARBOR HOSPITAL.

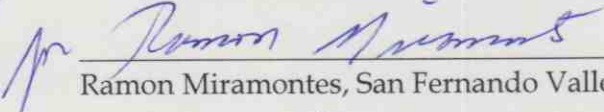
Respectfully submitted by:


Argentina Dávila-Luévano, California LULAC State
Director Elect and Contra Costa Council # 3071


Angel G. Luévano, California LULAC Immediate Past
State Director and Contra Costa Council # 3071


Zenaida Burgos, District X Director and Contra Costa
County Council # 3071


Norma E. Ramirez, President, San Fernando Valley Council # 3122

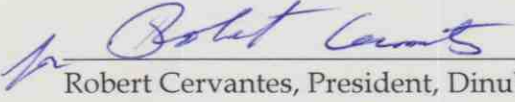

Ramon Miramontes, San Fernando Valley Council # 3122


Jose Gonzalez, San Fernando Valley Council # 3122


Cesar Miranda Valencia, San Fernando Valley Young Adult Council # 3131


Carlos Jaureque, President, Council # 3096


Manny Juarez, Federal Employee Council # 3123


Robert Cervantes, President, Dinuba Council # 3124


Maria Villegas, Berkeley Young Adult Council # 3132