



Health Care for All - California

SINGLE-PAYER UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

healthcareforall.org

Greetings California Single-Payer Activists!

October 2020

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From the Chair

This year has forever left an imprint on each of us. The devastating deaths and adverse social and health consequences experienced by the confluence of major natural events requires us to come together with collective wisdom.

Addressing the crisis and confusion demands that we work for the wellbeing of each other. Science alone will not be able to control or eradicate forces behind the disasters. Human-to-human social, political and economic relationships must be understood and strengthened.

[Jonathan Salk](#), son of Jonas Salk, wrote that his father:

“would have noted what implications the pandemic holds for our long-term future, and he would have connected it to the transformation we need at this juncture in human history if we are to survive. From the 1970s until his death in 1995, he thought deeply about this transformation and how we as a species might adapt successfully to population pressures and the approach of planetary limits. He examined the evidence and concluded we must evolve socially. In nature, evolutionary pressures and natural selection bear on competing individuals, but in the case of humans, we became evolutionarily successful through cooperation.”

The message is that we the people must continue to work together in building our network of single-payer supporters as we develop strategies to transform to a just and equitable system of organizing and financing access to health care for everyone. We are all called upon to replace the “us first,” win/lose mindset with a “we together”, win/win mindset. Not only with each other, our families and communities, but also with our leaders.

In this newsletter a list of the HCA endorsements for statewide legislative candidates, who are single-payer supporters, is included as well as the endorsement of Proposition 15. HCA continues to build relationships with and give input to the Governor, the Commission, and our legislators. We will continue to work to educate ourselves, each other, our communities and our leaders. In doing so, HCA will share strategies and resources to debunk the widely spread false memes and narratives in the media.

Together we can transform Health Care in California!

Millie Braunstein
Chair, HCA

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*It is a new world.
One that we re-imagine.
One that we are advocating for.*

2020 Election

It goes without saying, HCA encourages everyone to vote and encourage others to do so. The primary mission of Health Care for All – California is to achieve a universal health care system through single-payer public financing. Our work to achieve this goal is primarily through education

about single payer and advocacy for single-payer legislation.

During election cycles, HCA's advocacy focus is on the Healthy Majority Campaign to help elect super majorities – that is, “the Healthy Majority” of pro single-payer candidates to the California Assembly and Senate, and to elect a pro single-payer governor. -- Dan Hodges

The following **candidates** have been endorsed by HCA.

CA Senate:

Pamela Swartz (SD1)	David Cortese (SD 15)
Nancy Skinner (SD 9)	John Laird (SD 17)
Scott Wiener (SD 11)	Elizabeth Castillo (SD 33)
Josh Becker (SD 13)	Toni Atkins (SD 39)

CA Assembly:

Jim Henson (AD 3)	Godfrey Santos Plata (AD 53)
Kevin McCarty (AD 7)	Margaret Villa (AD 58)
Veronica Jacobi (AD 10)	Maria Estrada (AD 63)
Buffy Wicks (AD 15)	Fatima Iqbal-Zubair (AD 64)
David Chiu (AD 17)	Liz Lavertu (AD 71)
Rob Bonta (AD 18)	Scott Rhinehart (AD 73)
Alex Lee (AD 25)	Cottie Petrie-Norris (AD 74)
Ash Kalra (AD 27)	Sarah Davis (AD 78)
Mark Stone (AD 29)	

Proposition 15, *Schools and Community First* has also been endorsed by HCA.

- A [Beacon Economics report](#) shows that Prop 15 will not **impact small business renters, including triple net lease tenants**” and “most claims about Proposition 15’s impacts on small businesses are unfounded. The burden of would fall on the state's largest corporations and highest-value properties.”
- A [new study from Urban Institute](#) finds Prop 15 is likely to increase housing in California over the long term disproves claims cited by opponents that the initiative would worsen the state’s housing shortage.

- [fact Check: New Opposition Ad Misleads Voters, Contradicts Studies and Data](#)
- [CalMatters: California NAACP president aids corporate prop campaigns — collects \\$1.2 million and counting](#)
- [PolitiFact: Solar, Tax Experts Reject Claim Prop. 15 Imposes 'Massive Tax Increase' On Solar In California](#)
- [Capital & Main: Cash of the Titans: Prop. 15's Big-Spending Opposition](#)

Take Action:

We need you to be a local champion for Prop 15! Check out this [Prop 15 Endorser Toolkit](#) for ways you can amplify your endorsement and ensure your community votes YES on Prop 15. Need inspiration? The toolkit also includes some sample posts!

In Memoriam: Sue Bergman

by Dan Hodges

Sue Bergman, health educator, an early member of “Vote Health” in Alameda county, and subsequently one of the founding Board members of HCA, passed away in her sleep one year ago. Her sudden passing was a great loss to HCA and California’s single-payer movement. Sue left a bequest of \$80,000 to HCA. This marks only one of many important contributions she made to HCA. Here I want to explain Sue’s significance to HCA’s history.

Vote Health was formed in the mid-1980s to organize for health care justice and for single payer in California. Bergman was, therefore, one of the earliest members of HCA when it was founded in 1995. She was a member of HCA’s first board, as a director from Vote Health.

Sue was also an original member of HCA’s Legislative Committee. In late 1997, this committee wanted to have a single-payer bill introduced in the legislature. By the time Judy Spelman, RN, had drafted a bill, no author for it had been secured. This was a crisis moment, but Sue met the challenge. Bergman initiated meetings with various Assembly Members and Senators to get their advice about a legislator they might approach to serve as author of the new single-payer bill.

At the top of the list was then State Senator, Barbara Lee. However, Lee was about to run for Congress. Sue arranged a meeting at the state capitol with staff who had been assigned by Senate President Pro Tempore, John Burton, to wind up Lee’s affairs. The result of this meeting was that