



Dear Single Payer / Medicare for All Supporters,

# New Single Payer Bill in CA State Legislature

It's happening. Activists throughout the state are mobilizing support for the new California Guaranteed Health Care Act, AB 1400. A trio of Assembly members have introduced the bill--Ash Kalra and Alex Lee of San Jose, and Miguel Santiago of Los Angeles--along with an unprecedented 16 co-authors from the Assembly and Senate.

The <u>bill</u> lists all co-authors and is preceded by a brief summary from the Legislative Counsel's office. See if your state legislators are on the list, and take a look at the great features in the bill.

As with previous bills, AB 1400 calls for creating a cost-effective single payer system capable of guaranteeing comprehensive health care for everyone in California, with complete choice of health practitioners and no cost at point of service. Care decisions are made by the doctor and patient, not an insurance corporation. The new bill is closely aligned with federal Medicare for All legislation and includes long-term care.

The Health Care for All state board reviewed the bill and voted unanimously to endorse and work for it. HCA <u>chapters</u> have started organizing local advocacy in coordination with community groups. Get in touch and get involved!

The California Nurses Association (CNA), the sponsor of the bill, is guiding a multi-pronged campaign to build constituent demand in all 80 Assembly and 40 Senate districts. Click <u>here</u> to see activities (leg visits, city council resolutions, texting program) and helpful documents (single payer principles, talking points).

To read a complete history of the California single payer movement by former HCA chair Dan Hodges, click <u>here</u>.

## Talking Point: How can we afford it?

Note: AB 1400 is a "policy" bill. It does not include a financing plan. Rather it indicates the intent to pass a second bill that would develop a revenue plan once the policy is approved. (A financing bill will require a two-thirds vote.) So when the price tag for a single payer system comes up and we're asked how we are going to pay for it, <u>here's the answer</u>.

The governor must lead on single payer at the state and federal levels. Federal waivers will be needed from the Biden administration to transfer federal funds to our state single payer system. Please watch a brief video and sign this <u>petition</u>. Your signature counts!



## **Events this Week**

### **California Progressive Alliance Third Annual Convention**

(With a special single payer breakout session)

Saturday, March 6, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**RSVP** Convention program

### Taking a Look at AB 1400 (CalCare)

#### Sunday, March 7, 4 to 5 p.m.

Experts explain the California Guaranteed Health Care Act:

James Kahn, MD, MPH; Ron Birnbaum, MD; Kip Sullivan, JD

Sponsored by HCA-LA

https://zoom.us/j/94981610384 ID 94981610384

Meeting ID: 949 8161 0384

One tap mobile

+14086380968,,94981610384# US (San Jose)

Or Facebook Livestream https://www.facebook.com/HealthCareForAllLosAngeles

### Models of Health Care in our World by Dr. Paul Song, PNHP\*

### Wednesday, March 10, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

**<u>RSVP</u>** Sponsored by South of L.A. Education and Health Strategies (SOLA)

\*Physicians for a National Health Program www.pnhp.org

# **Resources for Single Payer Activists**

### 2021 MEDICARE FOR ALL STRATEGY CONFERENCE NOW AVAILALBE ONLINE

<u>Connect</u> to a wide range of useful sessions hosted by <u>Healthcare-Now!</u> and the <u>Labor Campaign for Single Payer</u>, attended by 1,200 activists over the January 23-24 weekend.

#### MEDICARE FOR ALL: A CITIZEN'S GUIDE

#### By Dr. Abdul El-Sayed & Micah Johnson

This new<u>book</u> has been praised by a host of health experts and activists as a thorough and convincing presentation in easy-to-read language.

# **Fab Flixs**

Fix It: Healthcare at the Tipping Point

Now is the Time: Healthcare for Everybody

The Healthcare Movie

#### The Power to Heal \*

\* Special rate for activists. HCA – CA can facilitate access. This is a dramatic historical film about the power of Medicare in 1965 to heal racial inequality in health care. With deep gratitude and great hope,

Ellen Karel, Chair Health Care for All - California



### **Membership**

We can't do this without your support! Your membership provides vital funding for ongoing outreach to voters and public officials. Robust membership also demonstrates the depth of support for single-payer universal healthcare. You can either join online or print a membership form to mail in with a check.