

HEALTH CARE

The Health Care Council of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce is a leader in providing the business perspective on key health care issues in our region.

Los Angeles County has the highest number of people covered under The Affordable Care Act (ACA) with about 1.5 million residents, or 15 percent of the population, now insured either through Medi-Cal or a Covered California plan. And with nearly 600,000 health care jobs in the L.A. region, the health care industry is vital not only to the well-being of our residents, but to our businesses, workforce and economy.

In 2018, the Chamber will closely monitor proposed reforms to the nation's health care system, and continue our advocacy for business-friendly health care policies that increase affordability, protect access to coverage and quality care, create health professional workforce opportunities and generally improve the health of all individuals and businesses.

Influence Affordable Care Act/health care reform proposals

The Chamber has been an advocate for implementation of the ACA and will continue to influence proposed changes to ensure shared responsibility for health care financing, adequate access to health care providers and reduced overall financial burden on employers. The chamber also supports reform and innovations in delivery and financing models that strengthen the sustainability of the health care system and improve

the quality of care. We will work with the state legislature on policies that seek to provide accessible healthcare for all, while ensuring healthcare providers and systems are properly funded.

Advocate for policies that increase affordability and efficiency

The Chamber will advocate for policies that control escalating health care costs and increase affordability for employers and employees. We support options to help businesses manage health care costs, and provide more flexibility for large and small businesses to join together to purchase quality coverage.

Encourage certainty in health care reform

As we navigate additional reforms to health care, the Chamber will encourage our leaders to use planning and predictability as cornerstones of their discussions. Regulatory vagueness and ambiguity can impede businesses success, and harm value-based care and the work of L.A. health care leaders in providing access to quality, affordable health care for individuals and employers.

Support adequate access to health care services

The Chamber is committed to supporting broader access to health care services, including mental health parity and addiction equity. Over the past several years, we have supported an expansion of Medicaid and fought for hospitals and providers to receive fair reimbursement rates. We will continue our work to protect and strengthen L.A. County's health care safety net

and ensure quality care for all patients. The Chamber will also continue our efforts to promote initiatives aimed at enhancing the health care infrastructure, including strengthening graduate educational programs and the workforce, and enhancing facility accessibility for members of the community who are aging and disabled.

Promote integrated health systems and innovative strategies

The Chamber supports a "whole-person" approach to wellness and care, and encourages considerations focused on social determinants of health, such as the environments in which people are born, live and work. Further, given the growing behavioral health needs of L.A. and the nation, we also encourage the development of proposals that advance the provision of integrated health care sectors including hospitals, health groups, health systems and federally qualified health centers.

Promote children's health

The Chamber strongly supports preserving funding streams for children's health programs. Health care coverage and prevention of chronic illnesses is critical to ensuring successful educational and physical development in children, and reducing health care costs for businesses and taxpayers. The Chamber will promote business-friendly options to combat obesity, address behavioral health, increase quality oral health access and focus on health education, exercise and healthy foods to ensure our future generations are ready to learn and succeed.



2018 Health Care Council Leadership



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