Health Care Council Meeting
January 29, 2016
10 – 11:30 p.m.

1. Welcome and Self Introductions

2. 2015 Priorities for the Senate Committee on Health

   The Honorable Ed Hernandez, O.D.,
   Chair, Senate Committee on Health

3. Update and Action Item: County Take-Back Ordinance
   Brandon Stephenson, Cerrell Associates


5. Closing Remarks and Upcoming Events

Upcoming Chamber Events
- 2016 Inaugural Dinner: Thursday, February 11th
- ACCESS Washington, D.C.: Tues, April 26th- Thurs, April 28th @ JW Marriott
- ACCESS Sacramento: Tues, June 7th- Weds, June 8th @ Citizen Hotel

Next Council Meeting:
March 4, 2016
10-11:30 a.m.
Los Angeles Area
Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Ed Hernandez, O.D.
Senator
California State Senate

An optometrist and local businessman, Senator Dr. Ed Hernandez, O.D. was first elected to the California State Senate in 2010, and was re-elected in 2014, after serving two terms in the State Assembly. He is Chair of the Senate Committee on Health, a member of the Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee, the Government and Finance Committee, the Committee for Governmental Organization and the Senate Insurance Committee.

Senator Hernandez grew up in La Puente and graduated from Bassett High School. He attended both Rio Hondo and Mt. San Antonio Community Colleges before receiving his B.S. degree in Biology from Cal State Fullerton. He received a scholarship to study Optometry at Indiana University, which is also where he met his wife, Dr. Diane Hernandez, O.D. After returning home, “Dr. Ed” and his wife setup their first practice in his hometown of La Puente.

He is currently working on legislation to improve access to quality health care for all Californians, and proudly represents the 22nd Senate District, which covers the majority of the cities, county areas and neighborhoods of the San Gabriel Valley.
SUMMARY:
In August 2015, Supervisors Antonovich and Solis introduced a motion directing the Interim Chief Executive Officer, in collaboration with the County's Sustainability Council and the Pharmaceutical Working Group, to come up with an ordinance that would ensure all County residents have access to safe, convenient, and sustainably financed collection and take-back options for properly disposing unwanted pharmaceutical and sharps waste. The County has been conducting hearings on their draft proposal.

OVERVIEW:
For decades, law enforcement agencies have sponsored pharmaceutical and over the counter take back days. The concept is for consumers to remove unwanted and unused medicines from households to reduce the risk of abuse by taking medicines to a secure location for its ultimate destruction. Recently, the Product Stewardship Council began approaching counties in California to encourage the development of programs that would mandate the pharmaceutical and over the counter industries pay for and manage the program.

The County released a preliminary draft in November, at which time, the language placed the entire burden of the program, including the design, implementation and cost, on the industry, without any shared responsibility with other stakeholders. Mandating that the pharmaceutical and over the counter medicine industries pay potentially millions of dollars to design, implement and manage this program, as well as ongoing operational costs, is a direct tax on the industries without any shared responsibility with consumers of medicines and others in the health supply chain.

The industry has proposed the "Pharmaceutical & Sharps Safe Disposal Education Initiative," as an alternative which is based on best practices and includes performance metrics.

A Final Draft for the Los Angeles County Pharmaceuticals and Sharps Collection and Disposal Stewardship Ordinance was released January 5, 2016.

RECOMMENDATION:
Support the concepts outlined in the Pharmaceutical Education Initiative and stress to the County the importance of a program that is reasonable, fair, and will deliver results, while providing equitable solutions.
2016 HEALTH CARE COUNCIL AGENDA

The Health Care Council of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) is a leader in providing the business perspective on key health care issues. The council supports reform efforts that promote shared responsibility for health care financing, expand access to coverage and quality care, and create health professional workforce opportunities.

In 2016, the Chamber will continue to advocate for health care policies that provide greater coverage, increase affordability, grow the health care industry, and improve the health of all individuals and businesses. **Strong health care policy is good for business.**

Monitor implementation of affordable care act
The Chamber has been an advocate for full implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and will continue to monitor implementation in 2016 to ensure shared responsibility for health care financing, adequate access to health care providers, adoption of efficient digital health technologies, increased cost transparency, and reduced overall financial burden on employers. The Chamber supports realignments and innovations in delivery and financing models that strengthen the sustainability of the health care system and improve quality of care.

Control escalating health care costs
The Chamber will advocate for policies that control escalating health care costs impacting 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 business-friendly policies and education regarding Covered California
Covered California’s launch has been hailed as a national model for State individual market health care exchanges. The Chamber will continue to engage with Covered California staff and board members to ensure a robust enrollment and education strategy for the Covered CA for Small Business (formerly SHOP) as well. It is critical to provide small business owners with business-friendly policies and options for health care coverage. In late 2015, the Chamber launched a Healthcare HUB to actively engage and educate small business owners through community outreach, workshops, and in-person health insurance agency meetings. The Chamber will continue to grow this resource program.
Support adequate access to health care services
The Chamber is committed to supporting broader access to health care coverage and services. Over the past few years, the Chamber supported an expansion of Medi-Cal and fought for hospitals and providers to receive fair reimbursement rates. We will continue to advocate for adequate payments to health care providers to ensure the promise of coverage gained through the ACA is made real. These efforts will protect the local health care safety net, ensure proper care for the remaining uninsured and achieve planned systems alignments and cost efficiencies for long-term savings. To enhance provider/network adequacy and address the critical shortage of health care professionals, the Chamber will also continue our efforts to strengthen the health care workforce pipeline through collaboration with diverse stakeholders. Growth in this employment sector will provide career opportunities and incentives to remain in Southern California.

Promote children’s health
Health care coverage for children is critical to ensuring successful educational and physical development, and reducing health care costs for businesses and taxpayers. The Chamber will promote business-friendly options to combat obesity, 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.
THE 128TH ANNUAL
INAUGURAL DINNER
PRESENTED BY DELTA
THURSDAY, FEB. 11
JW MARRIOTT AT L.A. LIVE
900 W. OLYMPIC BLVD, LOS ANGELES 90015
5:30 p.m. | Cocktail Reception
7 p.m. | Program & Dinner
Individual Ticket $100
Table for ten: $6,000
JWN BOARD CHAIR

THOMAS S. SAYLES
SVP FOR UNIVERSITY RELATIONS
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

HONORING

CIVIC MEDAL OF HONOR
ANTONIA HERNANDEZ
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CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS LEADER
PETER S. LOWY
CO-CEO
WESTFIELD CORP., INC.

CORPORATE LEADERSHIP AWARD
MICHAEL BURKE
CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
AES CORP.

THE NIGHT'S EMCEE
HON. HENRY A. WESSON
PRESIDENT
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

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Join us as we travel to our nation’s capitol.

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with local government officials, business groups, and chambers of commerce, leads an annual delegation of more than 200 business leaders and public officials to Washington, D.C. to advocate for Southern California. Participants meet with members of Congress and the President’s administration on key issues. The trip includes two breakfasts with high-ranking congressional or administration leaders, a marquee reception and a delegation dinner.

Price & Hotel Information

Early bird registration is $750 per person until March 18. After that date, registration increases to $850 per person.

This fee includes all of the trip’s scheduled events, as well as costs associated with meeting planning and delegate materials. Registration fee includes selected receptions and meals. Participants are responsible for their own travel and hotel arrangements.

The JW Marriott Washington, D.C. is the conference hotel and is offering a group rate of $369 per night. Space is limited, and the group rate expires March 1. Please contact the JW Marriott directly at 202.626.2605. Group name: “ACCESS DC.”

Scenes from ACCESS Washington, D.C. 2015:

2015 ACCESS D.C. Delegation

Sen. Dianne Feinstein addressed the delegation.

Delegates had the opportunity to meet with Sen. Barbara Boxer.

Delegates participated in one of 15 teams advocating for 36 priority issues.