Health Care Council
January 10, 2014
8:00 – 9:15 AM

1. Welcome and Self Introductions

2. A New Year, A New Affordable Care Act World

   Special Guest:
   Senator Ed Hernandez, Chair, Senate Health Committee


Upcoming Chamber Events (9:13-9:15):
- 125th Annual Inaugural Dinner: Thursday, January 30th
- ACCESS DC, LA on the Hill: Monday, March 10th- Wednesday, March 12th

Next Council Meeting:
Thursday, February 6, 2013
10-11:30 AM
Hon. Ed Hernandez, O.D.
State Senator
California State Senate

Dr. Ed Hernandez had only one goal as a young man – to serve the health care needs of the community he came from. As an optometrist and local businessman, he never dreamed he would one day work in the California State Legislature. As a health care provider in predominantly low-income communities though, the need to improve access to health care is what drove him to run for office. Dr. Ed was first elected to the Assembly in November of 2006, and re-elected in November of 2008. He won his seat in the California State Senate in November of 2010.

Senator Hernandez serves as Chair for the Senate Committee on Health. He is also a member of the Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee, as well as the Government and Finance Committee and the Committee for Governmental Organization.

Senator Hernandez is the Chair of the San Gabriel Valley Legislative Caucus, made up of 13 Senators and Assemblymembers representing the greater San Gabriel Valley. This position has allowed him to work in cooperation with fellow legislators on issues critical to the San Gabriel Valley, including water and transportation.

Senator Hernandez grew up in La Puente, attended local schools and graduated from Bassett High School. He worked his way through school, attending both Rio Hondo and Mt. San Antonio Community Colleges before going on to get 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 Diane. After returning home, Dr. Ed and his wife setup their first practice in his hometown of La Puente.

Senator Hernandez represents the 24th Senate District, which includes parts of the City of Los Angeles including El Sereno, Lincoln Heights, City Terrace, Montecito Heights, as well as East Los Angeles and the Cities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, Covina, Duarte, El Monte, Industry, Irwindale, La Puente, Monterey Park, Rosemead, and West Covina. The district also includes the communities of Avocado Heights, Citrus, Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, South San Gabriel, Valinda and Vincent.
The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce 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. It will continue to monitor implementation in 2014 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 also supports realignments in delivery and financing models that will 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. It supports options to help businesses manage healthcare costs and provide more flexibility for large and small businesses to join together to purchase quality coverage. The Chamber will be an advocate for employers’ benefits issues as the full effects of Affordable Care Act implementation are realized by members.

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 Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) as well. It is critical to provide small business owners with business-friendly policies and options for health care coverage. The Chamber will remain a partner in outreaching to its small business members to ensure those who would benefit from purchasing health care coverage for employees through the SHOP will know how to do so.

Support Adequate Access to Health Care Services
The Chamber is committed to supporting broader access to health care coverage and services. In 2013, the Chamber supported a thoughtful expansion of Medi-Cal and fought for hospitals and providers to receive fair reimbursement rates to meet workforce demands. The Chamber will continue to advocate for adequate payments to health care providers to ensure the promise of coverage gained through the Affordable Care Act is made real. These efforts will protect the local health care safety net and achieve planned systems alignments and cost efficiencies for long-term savings. To further enhance provider and network adequacy, the Chamber will continue to strengthen the health care workforce pipeline through collaboration with diverse stakeholders to address the critical shortage of health care professionals. Growth in this employment sector will provide career opportunities and incentives to remain in Southern California.

Promote Children’s Health
Healthcare 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, focus on health education, exercise and healthy foods to ensure our youngest learners are ready to learn and succeed.
SAVE THE DATE:
MARCH 10-12, 2014

JOIN US ON OUR MISSION TO
MOVE AMERICA FORWARD.

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of
Commerce, in partnership with local
government officials, leading 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.

RSVP Now at
lachamber.com/accessdc

Price & Hotel
Information

Early bird registration is $750 per person until Feb. 5. After that date, registration increases to $825 per person.

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

The Willard InterContinental Washington, D.C. is the conference hotel and is offering a group rate of $379 per night. Space is limited, and the group rate expires Feb. 5. Please contact the Willard directly at 202.628.9100. Group name: “ACCESS DC.”

Thank you to our partners

Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
Central City Association
City of Los Angeles

Hollywood Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Business Council
Los Angeles County Business Federation

Los Angeles Unified School District
Metro
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce
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