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L.A. AREA CHAMBER Responds to Health Care Reform Debate

The Chamber finds it unfortunate that battle lines are being drawn by the unions against comprehensive health care reform. The state remains at a crossroads in the health care debate and the current special session is a golden opportunity to craft a new system based on the concept of shared responsibility. Californians can no longer afford the status quo.

We believe that the citizens of California will be the loser if this new labor union led coalition kills health care reform. Governor Schwarzenegger’s proposal for universal and guaranteed coverage, supported by a state subsidized pool for low and moderate income families, is a plan to be applauded, not maligned. The Governor’s plan to have all stakeholders including individuals, employers, providers, insurers and the government play a role in the financing, remains the best model for these badly needed reforms. The Chamber encourages business and labor to continue working with the Governor and other stakeholders to ensure that health care reform does not die in 2007.

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The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce represents the interests of business in L.A. County. Founded in 1888, the Chamber promotes a prosperous economy and quality of life in the Los Angeles region. For more information visit www.lachamber.org.