



January 6, 2022

COALITION STATEMENT ON AB 1400

SACRAMENTO – Protect California Health Care, a coalition of doctors, nurses, hospitals, employers and other Californians concerned about the impact of single payer on our health care system released the following statement on AB 1400, attributable to coalition spokesperson Ned Wigglesworth.

“California has led the nation in expanding access to affordable health care and is closer than ever to achieving universal coverage, with 94 percent of Californians currently enrolled in a plan.

Despite the progress we’ve made, some interests are pushing AB 1400, a bill that would force every single Californian into a government plan, taking away any choice for anyone who might want to select private coverage or opt out. In doing so, AB 1400 would immeasurably disrupt the health care that millions of Californians rely on every day, and at the worst possible time, as omicron surges to unprecedented levels and the pandemic shows no sign of slowing.

The cost to Californians is unfathomable. AB 1400 would cost taxpayers some \$200 billion a year in higher taxes on jobs, income, services and more – making it more expensive to live in California for working families already struggling to recover during these deeply uncertain economic times.

Californians need and deserve a stable health care system they can rely on at all times, especially now. We urge the Legislature to reject this legislation that will risk the health care of the residents of our state when they need it most. Instead, we ask that they focus on ways to achieve affordable universal health care without upending a proven system that currently covers 94% of Californians.”

The coalition includes:

- California Medical Association
- California Hospital Association
- American Nurses Association / California
- America’s Physician Groups
- California Senior Advocates League
- California Association of Health Plans
- Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies
- California Chamber of Commerce
- California Business Roundtable
- California Agents and Health Insurance Professionals