

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Matt Wait

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 08:54 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please pass this important resolution to ensure millions of Californians have coverage for sickness and injury, regardless of their current employment.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lauren Textor

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 10:13 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'd like to thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendaize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. As a health care provider in Los Angeles, I have seen my low-income patients unable to get necessary care-- not just because of a longer wait, but because they are simply unable to get care at all. The disparities in COVID survival have thrown a spotlight on the brutal and persistent inequities in our health care systems. Financial studies show that the city government could save billions in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. Thank you, Lauren Textor

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Leila Charles Leigh

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 10:33 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'd like to thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendaize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians. Healthcare is a human right. We need to care for all our citizens, and help everyone lead a dignified life. We're only as healthy as our least healthy. It's in the public's interest on every level to guarantee healthcare for all.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Taiji Miyagawa  
**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 11:14 AM  
**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Thank you to the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee of the Los Angeles City Council for consideration of this resolution in support of the CalCare AB 1400 bill! Passage of this reform will help the city in SO many ways to obtain the resources we need to address existing healthcare disparities in Los Angeles, including the shortages of bilingual and bi-cultural care and public-oversight of healthcare facilities. Having everyone insured will prevent the public health dangers among many sectors of the population and it will be a fantastic jobs-creation bill. Re-circulating labor and capitol for the public good and allowing everyone to have access to healthcare will be a win-win for the majority of people. I understand that the City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that City Council approve this resolution, and I agree! Please send it to a Council floor vote by early September.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sasha Rappaport

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 11:23 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello Councilmembers, Please approve this CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council as soon as possible. AB 1400 will establish a single-payer health care system in California, called CalCare, that will ensure that all Californians, regardless of employment, income, immigration status, race, gender, or any other considerations, can get the health care they need, free at the point of service. The Covid-19 pandemic has exposed how grossly flawed and inequitable our multi-payer health system is and how critical it is for all Californians to be guaranteed access to health care. An estimated 1 in 3 Angelenos has been infected with COVID, and low-income communities of color are disproportionately impacted, experiencing higher rates of infection, hospitalization, and death. COVID has also exacerbated long-standing racial inequalities in the job market, which means that low-income communities of color have also been hardest hit with job losses during the pandemic. The fact that health insurance is tied to employment means that those most likely to get COVID are also those that are most likely to be without medical insurance. This has created a system where those that are most in need of health care are the least likely to seek it due to its costs, especially when they are already incredibly rent burdened. The inability to make rents combined with the inability to afford medical care has also been a major factor in the surge in the unhoused population across Los Angeles during the Covid-19 pandemic, which again disproportionately impacts low-income communities of color. My community of Highland Park has been hit hard by COVID, with over 5,654 cases and 92 deaths according to the Neighborhood Data for Social Change - COVID-19 dashboard. Of the 60,000 stakeholders in Highland Park, 13% are uninsured as of 2018, according to The USC Price Center for Social Innovation - Neighborhood Data for Social Change and this will likely have increased significantly since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. The current healthcare system has exasperated the effects of the pandemic in our neighborhood and across Los Angeles. AB 1400 sets in motion a single-payer health care coverage system in California, called Cal-Care, for all residents, regardless of citizenship status. By streamlining payments and lowering per-capita health care spending, CalCare guarantees quality health care and long-term

care without creating barriers to care or out-of-pocket costs. By affirming health care as a right to all Californians and establishing a payment system that eliminates waste and aligns reimbursements with the actual cost of care, we can make significant progress on financing and acquiring state and federal approvals. By passing AB 1400/Cal Care we would: Equitably and effectively address the health care burden of the Covid-19 crisis by providing comprehensive health care to every resident of California, without any cost sharing. Guarantee health care be free at the point of service for every person in California, respectively, for all necessary medical care including prescription drugs; hospital, surgical, and outpatient services; primary and preventive care; emergency services; reproductive care; dental and vision care; long-term care; and mental health care. Provide coverage without copays, deductibles, or other out-of-pocket costs, and would slash bureaucracy, protect the doctor-patient relationship, and assure patients a free choice of doctors. Establish state-wide comprehensive universal single-payer health care and a health care cost control system for the benefit of all residents of the state. Guarantee that all residents will be fully covered for health care without copays, deductibles, or other out-of-pocket costs. Improve the quality of life for Angelenos by allowing everyone to receive the ongoing care they need, instead of waiting until they have a medical emergency that could upend their lives as well as further burden local resources.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Maureen Cruise

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 11:06 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** RE: 21-0002-S83 ( Bonin, Raman) Greetings Councilmembers, Please approve this CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council without delay in the next few weeks. When adopted by the state, Cal Care AB 1400 will halt the unnecessary cruel, destructive, counterproductive and costly consequences of an extractive corporate based health insurance system operating for profit at our expense. The current insurance system siphons money away from health care, delays treatment, denies care, bankrupts families, forces forecloses on homes and businesses, imposes homelessness, and impoverishes communities. Both the city and local businesses are burdened with irrational administrative complexity and ever escalating costs for employee health. Joining the rest of the developed world and first economy nations, AB 1400 ensures that Health Care dollars will be spent on the delivery of health care and not extracted away from care to increase shareholder profits and fill corporate coffers with taxpayer funds. Los Angeles City expenditures must serve LA residents not Wall Street profiteers. Over decades, multiple financial analyses demonstrate that the city government and the residents of Los Angeles would save billions in healthcare costs by state adoption of single-payer AB 1400. The LA City budget would be relieved of the responsibility for covering employee health care. The city treasury would be available for other essential expenditures, of which there are plenty. Cal Care will free businesses from the burden of funding employee health insurance, allow entrepreneurs the freedom to flourish, encourage micro investments and inject savings into the local economy. This reform will improve the health of our workforce, limiting sickness and disability days away from work. Relieved of funding medical insurance, wages could be increased, investing in families and enriching the local economy. Medical debt would be abolished. It does not exist in single payer countries and medical debt should not exist here nor anywhere. AB 1400 Cal Care will remove the health disparities of our current racial and economic caste system so damaging to Los Angeles families and neighborhoods. AB 1400 apportions health care dollars according to health care needs with the goal of erasing disparities, equalizing health status and elevating positive health outcomes throughout the state. Los Angeles City residents will no longer suffer the current inadequate

access to treatment because they live in LA City Health Care deserts. These “deserts” are communities lacking sufficient local care facilities and suffering many obstacles to accessing needed care. Typically these are culturally, linguistically, racially and geographically defined communities of working people, often immigrants, impacted with low wages, high health needs and limited access to services. This inequity of available care across the city has resulted in a 12 year difference in life expectancy between the western, southern and eastern neighborhoods of our city. This apartheid system should not be sustained with LA City funding. Los Angeles is a major economic and cultural engine of California. As Los Angeles City takes the lead, the state will follow. Your City Council leadership matters within Los Angeles and beyond. Los Angeles City can be the catalyst finally bringing California into the 21st century. Cal Care saves lives and it saves money. AB 1400 Cal Care is morally imperative, administratively rational and fiscally responsible for the City of Los Angeles. This is an urgent measure. Everyday is an emergency for many LA City residents. Los Angeles City Council should represent the needs of our residents by adopting this motion and send endorsement of Cal Care AB 1400 to a full vote of the city council. The security, stability and health of our Los Angeles population and the financial sustainability of our city are at stake. Lives depend upon your actions today. Please pass this motion for a full LA City Council vote to endorse AB 1400 Cal Care. Thank you for your consideration, Maureen Cruise RN, Director Health Care for All - Los Angeles Chapter Team  
[info@healthcareforall-la.org](mailto:info@healthcareforall-la.org) [hcala.org](http://hcala.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/HCAlosangeles>  
[https://twitter.com/hca\\_losangeles](https://twitter.com/hca_losangeles)  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/> AB 1400 SINGLE PAYER IS THE SOLUTION

RE: 21-0002-S83 ( Bonin, Raman)

Greetings Councilmembers,

Please approve this CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council without delay in the next few weeks. When adopted by the state, Cal Care AB 1400 will halt the unnecessary cruel, destructive, counterproductive and costly consequences of an extractive corporate based health insurance system operating for profit at our expense. The current insurance system siphons money away from health care, delays treatment, denies care, bankrupts families, forces forecloses on homes and businesses, imposes homelessness, and impoverishes communities. Both the city and local businesses are burdened with irrational administrative complexity and ever escalating costs for employee health. Joining the rest of the developed world and first economy nations, AB 1400 ensures that Health Care dollars will be spent on the delivery of health care and not extracted away from care to increase shareholder profits and fill corporate coffers with taxpayer funds. Los Angeles City expenditures must serve LA residents not Wall Street profiteers.

Over decades, multiple financial analyses demonstrate that the city government and the residents of Los Angeles would save billions in healthcare costs by state adoption of single-payer AB 1400. The LA City budget would be relieved of the responsibility for covering employee health care. The city treasury would be available for other essential expenditures, of which there are plenty. Cal Care will free businesses from the burden of funding employee health insurance, allow entrepreneurs the freedom to flourish, encourage micro investments and inject savings into the local economy. This reform will improve the health of our workforce, limiting sickness and disability days away from work. Relieved of funding medical insurance, wages could be increased, investing in families and enriching the local economy. Medical debt would be abolished. It does not exist in single payer countries and medical debt should not exist here nor anywhere.

AB 1400 Cal Care will remove the health disparities of our current racial and economic caste system so damaging to Los Angeles families and neighborhoods. AB 1400 apportions health care dollars according to health care needs with the goal of erasing disparities, equalizing health status and elevating positive health outcomes throughout the state. Los Angeles City residents will no longer suffer the current inadequate access to treatment because they live in LA City Health Care deserts. These “deserts” are communities lacking sufficient local care facilities and suffering many obstacles to accessing needed care. Typically these are culturally, linguistically, racially and geographically defined communities of working people, often immigrants, impacted with low wages, high health needs and limited access to services. This inequity of available care across the city has

resulted in a 12 year difference in life expectancy between the western, southern and eastern neighborhoods of our city. This apartheid system should not be sustained with LA City funding.

Los Angeles is a major economic and cultural engine of California. As Los Angeles City takes the lead, the state will follow. Your City Council leadership matters within Los Angeles and beyond. Los Angeles City can be the catalyst finally bringing California into the 21st century. Cal Care saves lives and it saves money. AB 1400 Cal Care is morally imperative, administratively rational and fiscally responsible for the City of Los Angeles. This is an urgent measure. Everyday is an emergency for many LA City residents. Los Angeles City Council should represent the needs of our residents by adopting this motion and send endorsement of Cal Care AB 1400 to a full vote of the city council. The security, stability and health of our Los Angeles population and the financial sustainability of our city are at stake. Lives depend upon your actions today. Please pass this motion for a full LA City Council vote to endorse AB 1400 Cal Care.

Thank you for your consideration and your leadership,

Maureen Cruise RN, Director  
Health Care for All - Los Angeles Chapter Team

[info@healthcareforall-la.org](mailto:info@healthcareforall-la.org)

[hcala.org](http://hcala.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/HCAlosangeles>

[https://twitter.com/hca\\_losangeles](https://twitter.com/hca_losangeles)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/>

**AB 1400 SINGLE PAYER IS THE SOLUTION**

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Asher Benjamin Guthertz

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 09:10 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Committee, My name is Asher Guthertz and I am a Los Angeles resident. I am writing today deeply excited that this committee is considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I am urging you with all my heart to support this motion and to agendize it to be voted on by early September by the full City Council. A few good reasons to do this: The city's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended council approve the resolution. 14 (!) neighborhood councils have approved Community Impact Assessments in support of the motion. More importantly, single payer CalCare could save hundreds of thousands of low income Angelenos now, and there is no time to waste! Less importantly, the city can save billions by adopting this measure. Come on, there's no reason not to! Los Angeles is an important and deeply influential city and this could make such a big impact not only here, but around the world. Thank you for your time. Warmly, Asher

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Christine Shimizu

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 09:17 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge the Committee to approve the motion to support the CalCare bill, AB1400, and to agendize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. By transitioning to a SinglePayer system California will save billions of dollars every year, millions of lives will be saved, and the California economy and infrastructure will be vastly improved for all. Furthermore, The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians and 14 Neighborhood Councils have approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion. COVID has shown that BIPOC and low-income Angelenos can't wait on healthcare for all, while financial studies show that the city government and residents of Los Angeles could save billions in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. As the largest city in the state, Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving issue. Please approve the CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Hannah Gibson

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 09:06 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'd like to thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians. 14 Neighborhood Councils have approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion. COVID has shown that BIPOC and low-income Angelenos can't wait on healthcare for all, while financial studies show that the city government and residents of Los Angeles could save billions in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. As the largest city in the state, Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving issue. Again, please approve the CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you!  
Sincerely, Hannah Gibson 90032

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Harley Duggan

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 08:15 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm a Los Angeles resident and I'm asking the Committee to please approve the motion for the CalCare AB1400 bill. Please agendize CalCare AB1400, to be voted on by the full City Council, by early September. Thank you for your consideration.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 12:02 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** As a lifelong Los Angeles resident, I'd like to thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians. 14 Neighborhood Councils have approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion. The COVID crisis has shown that low-income Angelenos and people from historically marginalized groups can't wait on healthcare for all, while financial studies show that the city government and residents of Los Angeles could save billions in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. As the largest city in the state, Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving issue and set a precedent for other large cities and states to follow suit. Please approve the CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sandra Garcia

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 12:22 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi, My name is Sandra Roxana Garcia and I am a Los Angeles resident in the Watts area. I'd like to thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians. 14 Neighborhood Councils have already approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion. COVID has shown that BIPOC and low-income Angelenos can't wait on healthcare for all, while financial studies show that the city government and residents of Los Angeles could save billions in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. Watts is a majority BIPOC and low-income area whose residents would greatly benefit from an expanded Health Safety net. As the largest city in the state, Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving issue. Please approve the CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 12:46 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I commend the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare (AB1400) bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendaize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst recommended four months ago in April that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all California residents. Fourteen Neighborhood Councils have also approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion – Arroyo Seco, Boyle Heights, Eagle Rock, Historic Highland Park, Hollywood Hills West, Lincoln Heights, Los Feliz, North Hollywood Northeast, Palms, Panorama City, Rampart Village, Silver Lake, Van Nuys, United Neighborhoods – with more to come. With the COVID pandemic, BIPOC and low-income Angelenos have suffered disproportionate illness and death, while Angelenos in general have suffered job losses that in many cases have led to loss of healthcare because their health insurance was tied to employment. COVID has shown that Los Angeles and especially BIPOC and low-income communities in the city can't wait any longer for guaranteed and comprehensive healthcare for all. Meanwhile, according to the 2017 PERI study, Los Angeles as a whole could save close to \$4 billion annually in healthcare costs by adopting a single-payer system such as CalCare (AB1400). Based on 2019 estimates, the City of Los Angeles alone could save upwards of \$740 million a year in healthcare expenditure for city employees if CalCare were enacted in California. As the largest city in the state, Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving AND financially prudent issue. And as a 25-year resident of Los Angeles, I urge the Committee again to approve the motion in support of CalCare (AB1400) and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jamie Yochelson

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:22 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Jamie Yochelson and I'm a Los Angeles resident. I'd like to thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians. As an activist, I cannot stress the importance of this for millions of Angelenos. 14 Neighborhood Councils have approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion. COVID has shown that BIPOC and low-income Angelenos can't wait on healthcare for all, while financial studies show that the city government and residents of Los Angeles could save billions in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. As someone who struggles with mental health issues and chronic illness, getting this done would help me during this financially dire time. As the largest city in the state, Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving issue. Please approve the CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alice E Maupin

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 02:50 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** AB 1400 (CalCare) centers healthcare justice in a way no previous single-payer bill has done. It closes the HMO loophole, thus abolishing the healthcare double standard. It remedies healthcare disparities by integrating multilingual, culturally competent care and prioritizing resources for underserved communities, urban or rural. Nearly all individuals, families and businesses would save money with no copays, no deductibles, and no premiums. California Nurses Association urges the Los Angeles City Council to lead the way and support CalCare to send a strong message to the California Assembly when it votes on AB 1400 in January 2022.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Bronwyn

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:41 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Aloha Councilmembers, Please approve this CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council. In the midst of a pandemic and a climate crisis, it is painfully clear the many reasons why now, more than ever, we need a Single-Payer Health Care system in California and beyond. Fires, floods, pollution... Greed, denials, cruelty. ENOUGH! Health Care is a Human Right! WE MUST LEAD THE STATE AND THE NATION. We cannot afford to have another family end up on the street due to medical debt. It begins and ends here. Today. I implore you - please approve this motion. CalCare AB 1400 will halt the unnecessary cruel, destructive, counterproductive and costly consequences of an extractive corporate based health insurance system operating for profit at our expense. Joining the rest of the developed world and first economy nations, AB 1400 ensures that Health Care dollars will be spent on the delivery of health care and not extracted away from care to increase shareholder profits and fill corporate coffers with taxpayer funds. CalCare saves lives and it saves money. Los Angeles would save billions in healthcare costs by state adoption of single-payer AB 1400. The city treasury would be available for other essential expenditures, of which there are plenty. Los Angeles is a major economic and cultural engine of California. As Los Angeles City takes the lead, the state will follow. Your leadership matters within LA and beyond. LA can be the catalyst finally bringing California into the 21st century. Please pass this motion for a full LA City Council vote to endorse AB 1400 Cal Care. Mahalo, Bronwyn Major

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Daniel Salas

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:42 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Daniel Salas, I'm a resident of Los Angeles and I work as an infectious diseases (ID) pharmacist at a community hospital here in the San Fernando Valley. In my position I've witnessed first hand the myriad of shortcomings of our current system, but the main one I wanted to highlight in my brief comment today is the soaring and unsustainable costs of prescription drugs in the US. Hospitals across California, including my own, are struggling to keep up with these costs. COVID-19 has blown a hole in our pharmacy budget and this is largely being driven by the exorbitant costs of the 3 main drugs being used to treat it. One, an antiviral which taxpayers helped finance to produce, costs over \$6,000 for a treatment course. The other 2, which cost over \$2,000, are old drugs that were already on the market and are just being repurposed to treat COVID-19. During a national health crisis it is a shame the pharmaceutical industry can price gouge us for these potentially life-saving drugs. A single-payer system such as CalCare can help us rein in the costs of pharmaceuticals through negotiating prices and allow our hospitals and pharmacies to continue to operate efficiently. This is one reason I support AB1400, and I urge the Committee to approve the motion, then agendize the resolution in support of AB1400 to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. Thank you for your time and consideration.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alejandra Ponce de Leon

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:43 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge you to approve the CalCare motion. Access to quality healthcare is foundational to a functional, equitable society. I strongly support a single-payer health care coverage system in California, CalCare, for all residents, regardless of citizenship status. The pandemic has made it even harder for many of our community members to be able to afford healthcare — job losses, rent burdens, etc. We can't expect a thriving community if people don't have basic security when it comes to their health.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Steven Gibson

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:44 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Thank you for hearing the CalCare motion today. I ask that you please approve this motion and move it to a floor vote. We need to send a strong message to our state leadership about the urgent need for healthcare for all Californians. Thank you so much.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Fatima Iqbal-Zubair

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:46 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Fatima Iqbal-Zubair and I'm a Los Angeles resident and executive board member of the California Democratic Party. I'd like to thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendize it asap to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians. Under our current healthcare system, the district I live in South LA has seen many areas where up to 15% of the population is uninsured. This is a moral travesty and a public health crisis. Passing AB1400 would guarantee healthcare as a human right and immediately improve not only health but also economic outcomes, by eliminating costs the individual would have to pay to simply stay healthy. I urge the council to act urgently to pass this resolution and agendize it for a floor vote to respect the lives of not just some, but all Angelenos. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Linda

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:47 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am a Los Angeles resident. I'd like to congratulate the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. Please approve the motion and agendize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. I am a part of one of the 14 Neighborhood Councils have approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion. The pandemic has shown that BIPOC and low-income people can't wait on healthcare for all, while financial studies show that the city government and residents of Los Angeles could save billions in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. I am a teacher and have health insurance, but I still need help with the medical bills. Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving issue as the largest city in the state. Please approve the CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:58 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I 100% support the resolution to adopt AB 1400 - CalCare - in California to provide quality health care to ALL Californians. The covid pandemic has shown us that millions of people do not have access to quality health care. Quality health care must be a human right. People have lost jobs in the pandemic and their employer sponsored health insurance, which most insurance does not provide the full coverage of care we need. The resolution by Mike Bonin and seconded by Nithya Raman clearly states the need for CalCare and the passage of AB1400. California must "provide comprehensive universal single-payer health care coverage and a health care cost control system for the benefit of all residents of the state." It should also be clear that implementing CalCare will be fiscally smart for businesses as corporations and small business owners will save thousands by not having to provide overpriced insurance plans that don't have sufficient coverage to their employees. Simply put, CalCare is fiscally conservative and smart. The current profit driven health care system is insufficient and quite frankly, no one should purchase health plans based on their personal budget. That leaves too many areas of health care that are not covered. I have experienced this in the last few years with the lack of transparency of costs, surprise billing, not enough coverage and too many out of pocket expenses. It is financially stressful and in a pandemic, even more so. It MUST be a human right that every person in the state of California has access to quality health care. Thank you for your attention.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ben Hauck

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 02:00 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Ben Hauck. I'm a Los Angeles County resident and Southern California Vice Chair of the Progressive Caucus of the California Democratic Party. I'd like to thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendize it ASAP to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians. One recent study by the nonpartisan consumer health advocacy group FamiliesUSA found that roughly 1 of every 3 COVID deaths and 40 percent of infections were attributable to health insurance gaps which would not exist under a single-payer system. This is a moral travesty and a public health crisis. Passing AB1400 would guarantee healthcare as a human right, not merely a privilege for those who can afford it. I urge the council to act urgently to pass this resolution and agendize it for a floor vote no later than early September. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mia Livas Porter

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 02:19 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Mia Livas Porter and I'm a Los Angeles resident. I'd like to thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians. 14 Neighborhood Councils have approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion. COVID has shown that BIPOC and low-income Angelenos can't wait on healthcare for all, while financial studies show that the city government and residents of Los Angeles could save billions in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. As the largest city in the state, Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving issue. Please approve the CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** ALEXANDRA L CARCIERI

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 11:40 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is alex carcieri and I'm a Los Angeles resident. I'd like to thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians. 14 Neighborhood Councils have approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion. COVID has shown that BIPOC and low-income Angelenos can't wait on healthcare for all, while financial studies show that the city government and residents of Los Angeles could save billions in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. As the largest city in the state, Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving issue. Please approve the CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sean Byrne

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 12:01 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, Councilmembers, my name's Sean Byrne and I'm a writer in North Hollywood. I turn 26 years old next month. This means I will be forced off my parents' health insurance at the end of September. I do have a job now, but it's apparent that I will be forced onto a plan that is less comprehensive than the one I was on under my parents. I suffer from anxiety, and I see a therapist once a week. I have mild asthma, and I have other chronic conditions. I don't yet know what kind of plan I'm being thrown into, or how it will effect my ability to seek treatment. I'm just getting my start in life, and I'm being forced to worry about things I rarely had to worry about before. This is wrong. We often hear from Democratic Party politicians that healthcare is a human right. Well, I fully agree that it should be, but the reality is that in practice, it's not. My story is far from the worse story, but it is illustrative of how mad this system truly is. CalCare is the most comprehensive bill pertaining to healthcare I've seen in a long time. In many ways it rivals its counterparts in Congress. It would guarantee healthcare for free at the point of service and it would control costs. It's simple, yet so powerful. Instead of a maze of countless providers, in-networks and out-networks, it would be a streamlined system by which to administer and receive healthcare. No one would have to depend on their job for healthcare, or work through a complicated application process to see if they qualify for aid programs like MediCal. We could finally, truly say that healthcare is a human right...in the state of California, anyway, and hopefully this will be a model to other states and indeed the nation. Let's end profiteering off people's lives. Let's lift the burden of stress and medical debt off people's backs, let's guarantee high-quality healthcare as a human right for every single man, woman, child and everyone in between. Let's send a message to Sacramento that Los Angeles stands behind CalCare. Let's pass this resolution. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sara Roos

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 12:17 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge you to SUPPORT CalCare Council File 21-0002-S83, because we desperately need, and can afford (indeed can ill not-afford): universal, CalCare for all. Please pass this resolution from committee to the full council, to urge that our State legislators make AB1400 and universal healthcare happen. It's high time. Your constituents in the City of LA support assembly bill 1400: we need universal healthcare. For reference, my name is Sara Roos. I live near "downtown" Mar Vista, and am a constituent of one of the CalCare resolution's authors, CD11's Mike Bonin. I am former secretary of Mar Vista's Community Council, a community organizer and an elected member of Los Angeles County's Democratic Party from Isaac Bryan's assembly district 54. I am a founder of LA's Education Examiner and contribute regularly to the local journal City Watch LA. I myself am "housed" within 1000 feet of four encampments of fellow, unhoused citizens. I believe it is our obligation as human beings and citizens – as a society – to afford universal healthcare for one and for all. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Stacy Calderon

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 12:26 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge the Committee to approve the motion and agendize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. As the largest city in the state, Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving issue. Please approve the CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Paul Newman

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:41 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** We need a single-payer system. AB1400 Calcare is our answer to ending bankruptcies , a medicare system filled with waste and fraud, a barrier to pandemics, people dying before their claims are granted, private insurance deciding to cancel your claim, saving billions of dollars which can be rerouted into the 5th largest economy in the world California ( Los Angeles ), deals with homelessness and mental illness, puts household money towards food and rent, takes medical benefits out of the cost of businesses and allows people to see their personal doctor. Please Vote in favor of this resolution. your truly, Paul Newman

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Shervin Aazami

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:10 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Shervin Aazami. I am a father, public health activist, and Los Angeles resident raised in the San Fernando Valley. I am writing to express my strong support for the Committee considering Council File (CF) 21-0002-S83 and urge approval of the motion. I also urge the Committee to agendize the motion for a vote before City Council in September. This CF is in support of statewide single-payer healthcare legislation, or CalCare, under bill number AB1400. It is critical that Los Angeles City Council formally endorse CalCare. The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare the structural inequities in our healthcare system, which continue to disproportionately impact low-income communities and communities of color. We have over 3.4 million uninsured residents in California, a third of whom reside in Los Angeles. Lack of comprehensive healthcare coverage has left too many of our community members at higher risk of sickness and death from chronic and infectious diseases alike. Single-payer would not only save our state billions of dollars in healthcare costs, it would dramatically improve population health outcomes, particularly among our most vulnerable, by guaranteeing healthcare coverage for all. This would include primary and specialty care, mental health and substance use treatment, maternal healthcare, and long-term care. No one's access to healthcare should be dictated by their zip code or their financial status. We must guarantee healthcare as a human right. I again urge the Committee to approve this motion and agendize it for the full Council in September.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Catherine Safley

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 01:33 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Catherine Safley and I'm a resident of the city of Los Angeles. I thank the Committee for considering the resolution in Council File 21-0002-S83 in support of the CalCare AB1400 bill. I urge the Committee to approve the motion and add it to the agenda to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians and 14 Neighborhood Councils have approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion. The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the the fact that BIPOC and low-income Angelenos can't wait on healthcare for all. Financial studies show that the city government and residents of Los Angeles could save billions of dollars in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. Speaking personally, I myself have been unable to get health insurance since the start of 2021 due to the structural and financial barriers of our current healthcare system. I'm lucky enough that my current living situation has allowed me to stay relatively safe and healthy, but I shouldn't have that concern hanging over my head, nor should anyone else, especially those whose day to day lives put them at far greater risk that I face. As the largest city in the state, Los Angeles should lead on this life-saving issue. Please approve the CalCare motion and send it to a floor vote of the City Council by early September. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Erika

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 12:36 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to ask the Committee to approve the motion to endorse AB 1400 also known as CalCare and agendize it to be voted on by the full City Council by early September. The City's Chief Legislative Analyst has recommended that the City Council approve the resolution affirming guaranteed healthcare for all Californians and 14 Neighborhood Councils have approved Community Impact Statements supporting the motion. COVID has exposed the current apartheid health care system and AB1400/Calcare is urgent for many Black Indigenous People of Color and low-income community members. CalCare would end this caste system providing the same high standard of comprehensive medical and mental health care for life to ALL CA residents regardless of age, race income level, gender identification, employment, marital, or immigration status. In addition to saving lives, the financial studies show that the city government and residents of Los Angeles would save billions in healthcare costs by adopting single-payer CalCare. As LA City Council looks to reimagine public safety CalCare would provide life-saving care and I hope LA City Council takes the lead in supporting this significant legislation.

# AB 1400 California Guaranteed Health Care for All Act (CalCare)

**Assembly Members Ash Kalra, Lee, Santiago  
Principal Coauthors » Assembly Members Chiu and Ting  
and Senators Lena Gonzalez, McGuire, and Wiener  
Coauthors » Assembly Members Carrillo, Friedman,  
Kamlager, McCarty, Nazarian, Luz Rivas, Wicks and  
Senators Becker, Cortese, Laird, and Wieckowski**

## SUMMARY

Today's U.S. health care system is a complex, fragmented multi-payer system that still leaves wide gaps of coverage and poses significant issues of affordability. Despite health care spending in the U.S. far exceeding other high-income, industrialized countries that offer a publically financed single-payer system, we consistently report worse health outcomes and disparities among vulnerable populations.

AB 1400 sets in motion a single-payer health care coverage system in California, called CalCare, for all residents, regardless of citizenship status. By streamlining payments and lowering per-capita health care spending, CalCare guarantees quality health care and long-term care without creating barriers to care or out-of-pocket costs.

By affirming health care as a right to all Californians and establishing a payment system that eliminates waste and aligns reimbursements with the actual cost of care, we can make significant progress on financing and acquiring state and federal approvals.

represent an overwhelming proportion of the overall projected premium dollar — 75% of the projected 2018 premium dollar.

Americans use significantly less health care services than people in other industrialized countries<sup>3</sup> — including physician visits and hospital admissions — yet spending is greater due to higher prices. Despite higher spending, Americans have worse health outcomes, including shorter life expectancy and greater prevalence of chronic conditions.<sup>4</sup>

Another challenge with our health care system is the pervasiveness in health disparities. California is a diverse state — racially, ethnically, economically, and geographically — and vulnerable populations face greater health risks and have less access to safety net programs.

California's growing senior population, aged 60 years and over, is expected to grow more than three times as fast as the total population,<sup>5</sup> which will place additional strain on health care services. As more aging adults enter Medicare, there will be a need to improve access and lower costs by pooling state and federal funds.

*continued »»*

## HEALTH SYSTEM STATUS QUO

An estimated 2.7 million Californians remain uninsured<sup>1</sup> and millions more with coverage often delay or are unable to access necessary medications or health care services due to cost. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, that number has grown as many workers have lost their employer-based coverage or were unable to afford the high cost of health care due to economic constraints.

Health care spending in the United States far outpaces other industrialized countries.<sup>2</sup> Based on prior years of health insurance rate filing data, hospital costs and physician services

- 1 Covered California estimates, Jan. 12, 2021.
- 2 I. Papanicolas, L.R. Woskie, and A.K. Jha, "Health Care Spending in the United States and Other High-Income Countries," *JAMA*, Mar. 13, 2018.
- 3 Health at a Glance 2017: OECD Indicators — number of doctor consultations per person, hospital discharges, and average length of stay in hospital.
- 4 "U.S. Health Care from a Global Perspective: Spending, Use of Services, Prices, and Health in 13 Countries," The Commonwealth Fund, Oct. 2015.
- 5 California Department of Aging website, "Facts About California's Elderly." [https://aging.ca.gov/Data\\_and\\_Reports/](https://aging.ca.gov/Data_and_Reports/).

## CALIFORNIA'S GUARANTEED HEALTH CARE FOR ALL (CALCARE)

The Covid-19 pandemic has exposed how grossly flawed and inequitable our multi-payer health system is and how critical it is for all Californians to be guaranteed access to health care. AB 1400 will bring California closer to achieving a single-payer health care system by setting in place a comprehensive framework of governance, eligibility and enrollment, benefits, delivery of care, and health care cost controls and program standards.

By passing the California Guaranteed Health Care for All Act, the state can position itself to seek consolidated federal waivers from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These waivers would make it easier for California to consolidate health care dollars, provide flexibility, expand benefits, and eliminate cost-sharing.

Upon being authorized and financed, CalCare will establish a comprehensive universal single-payer health care coverage program and a health care cost control system. CalCare will be set up as an independent public entity governed by a nine member executive board with expertise in health care policy and delivery.

The CalCare Board's composition shall be reflective of California's diversity and free of any conflicts of interest. The Board shall convene a Public Advisory Committee to advise on all matters of policy and make informed recommendations.

## THE CALCARE MISSION AND DUTIES

CalCare will be charged with overseeing the state's single-payer system, and will ensure the following »

### » Comprehensive Benefits and Freedom of Choice

Californians will have access to comprehensive health care coverage, including all primary and preventive care, hospital and outpatient services, prescription drugs, dental, vision, audiology, reproductive health services, maternity and newborn care, long-term services and supports, prescription drugs, mental health and substance abuse treatment, laboratory and diagnostic services, ambulatory services,

and more. Patients will have freedom to choose doctors, hospitals, and other providers they wish to see, without worrying about whether a provider is "in-network."

### » No Premiums, Copays, or Deductibles

Californians would receive health care services and other defined benefits without paying any premiums or deductibles. Upon receiving care, patients would not be charged any copays or other out-of-pocket costs.

### » Addressing Health Care Disparities

CalCare would remove barriers to care and create a special projects budget to fund the construction, renovation, or staffing of health care facilities in rural or underserved communities.

### » Long-Term Services and Supports for People with Disabilities and the Elderly

Long-term services and supports for daily living will be fully covered for medically determinable conditions, whether physical, mental or due to age.

### » Reducing Health Care Spending and Improving Care

CalCare would move the state to a simplified health care payment system that will free health care providers from devoting time on billing and instead focus on patient care. The new system would establish reasonable payment methodologies for providers that are aligned with the actual costs of care rather than driven by profits. Health care professionals and institutional providers would be prohibited from overutilizing services. CalCare can negotiate bulk drug prices for all Californians and take other measures to lower the costs of prescription drugs.

### » Global Budgets for Institutional Providers

CalCare would negotiate fair, adequate global budgets to hospitals and other institutional providers to help contain the exorbitant costs by aligning health care payments with the actual cost of care and eliminating waste present in the system today. Institutional providers may submit appeals to the global budget to address justifiable or unforeseen circumstances.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jesse Lerner

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 12:54 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am commenting in support of bill CalCare AB1400. Now more than ever it is vital for everyone in the state to have access to affordable healthcare. Like a growing number of people, I am strongly in favor of a single payer system and urge our elected officials to vote in favor of this bill.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jiyoung Carolyn Park

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 12:58 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** The Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated inequities in our systems, especially healthcare. Many who are out of work have no healthcare. Those who do have insurance often put off getting care due to high copays or deductibles. We have seen the hard way that ensuring public health generally means that every single person needs access to quality healthcare. Not only is singlepayer healthcare a moral imperative, it is also a fiscal imperative. Twenty two studies, including studies by the UC's and Yale, found that single-ayer healthcare would result in net savings over several years, primarily by reducing administrative costs. <https://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/healthcare/484301-22-studies-agree-medicare-for-all-saves-money> Polls have shown for some time that a majority of Californians support singlepayer healthcare. A NO vote would only benefit health insurance companies and big pharma. Support your constituents by supporting AB 1400/CalCare.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Matt Nitzahn

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 04:09 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** Healthcare for all is essential in making sure that people are healthy and can be treated without going bankrupt to pay off insane medical bills driven by greedy insurance companies. It's clear that a single payer healthcare system allows traditionally excluded groups of people finally have access to healthcare and develop a long-term relationship with a primary care provider, a key component of overcoming vaccine hesitancy. This is the moral thing to do, and we simply cannot allow greed and corruption to impact our health any longer. IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS, SUPPORT, PROPOSE, PASS, AND ENFORCE HEALTHCARE FOR ALL!!!!!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dylan

**Date Submitted:** 08/18/2021 05:56 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S83

**Comments for Public Posting:** As a California and Los Angeles native it has been so frustrating to see and experience firsthand the amount of woes I and my loved ones have personally faced while trying to navigate the privatized American health care system. The current system is built for profit, not for health, and it shows: I don't think I have met a single individual in my life who has not had SOME kind of nightmarish financial headache as a result of an expensive or unexpected medical bill, let alone the immense amount of pandemic profiteering in the medical sector that has taken place throughout 2020 and 2021. It is my hope that the CalCare motion can turn into an example for other counties and states in the US to follow. Medicine shouldn't be a profit-driven enterprise, it should be a health-driven one. Take care of the health of your citizens and they will take care of you. Neglect your citizens and they will fight for their rights. I ask the committee to PLEASE, for the good of our city, PLEASE take up CalCare. Millions of lives may quite literally depend on it.