



COALITION TO PROTECT ACCESS TO CARE



California's Medicaid program, known as Medi-Cal, provides health insurance to **low-income children, families, people with disabilities, homeless and elderly populations**. More than 15 million Californians and nearly 50 percent of children get their health care through the Medi-Cal program, making it an essential program for preventive and routine care for kids.

The Coalition to Protect Access to Care, a coalition of doctors, health care workers, community health centers, Planned Parenthood, health plans and emergency responders, is supporting a proposed ballot measure to permanently use dedicated funding to support Medi-Cal providers such as hospitals, physicians, women's health and community clinics and health centers. These tax dollars will bring more federal funds back to California and improve access to critical health care services.

Specifically, the initiative would:



+ **Increase** funding for mental health programs that care for children and Medi-Cal patients



+ **Expand** access to health care for Medi-Cal patients, which will result in reduced emergency room usage, and shortened wait times for all Californians



+ **Enable** California to manufacture its own insulin and other prescription drugs for Californians at much lower prices than exist currently






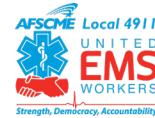
For years, California has used a Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax — a tax on health insurance companies — to maximize federal funding and draw down billions of extra dollars, to support state programs such as Medi-Cal. This initiative will ensure this much-needed funding will continue by permanently extending the MCO tax and dedicating spending to Medi-Cal.

This initiative will increase reimbursement rates for Medi-Cal providers - some of which have not been increased in decades - and will **expand our state's education and training** to create a pipeline of health care providers including nurses, physician assistants, and medical assistants. These actions will bring more providers to areas across California where they are needed most.

In addition to **funding mental health programs**, and **reducing the cost of prescription drugs**, the measure will ensure that Medi-Cal patients have more access to preventive care, which will **reduce expensive and timely emergency room usage**, which will benefit everyone.



 **COALITION TO PROTECT ACCESS TO CARE** To learn more visit www.AccessToHealthCareCA.com



Ad Paid for by Committee ID 1462573

Ad Committee's Top Funders

California Association of Hospitals and Health Systems

Global Medical Response and its subsidiaries

California Medical Association