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Public Comment - Health & Human Services

From: Carolyn Chaney <cchaney@sfsu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, June 3, 2021 10:09 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Please endorse SB 1400, CalCare



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The **Social Justice Ministry** of the *Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation* of Goleta, CA strongly supports AB 1400, the California Guaranteed Health Care for All Act. This bill would 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.

Despite the gains made under the Affordable Care Act, nearly 3 million Californians have no health insurance, and millions more have insurance that they can't afford to use because their copays and deductibles are too high. Meanwhile, for-profit insurance companies are reporting record-breaking profits, even while the Covid-19 pandemic rages and medical bankruptcies are at an all-time high.

Our faith calls us to respect the inherent worth and dignity of every person and to seek justice, equity and compassion in human relations. These principles cause us to abhor the existing racial disparities in health care, especially in California where Black, Indigenous, and other people of color are experiencing higher Covid-19 infection and death rates. CalCare will ensure that all people have equal and excellent access to health care. Underserved communities will receive full funding for the construction, renovation, and staffing of health care facilities.

CalCare health benefits will be fully comprehensive, 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." Furthermore, it would save families and businesses thousands in annual health care costs by cutting out the bloat, waste, and inefficiencies of our fragmented, for-profit insurance system.

We urge the SB Board of Supervisors to endorse AB 1400.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Chaney, Chair

Social Justice Ministry of the *Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation* of Goleta, CA

Meeting of 3/10/2021: It was moved, seconded and received a unanimous vote: The **Social Justice Ministry** of the *Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation* endorses AB 1400, CalCare, Healthcare for All. SJM pledges to support our California Nurses in order to accomplish passage of AB 1400. Furthermore, we will help to educate our congregation and involve our members in the process.