



# County of Monterey

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May 15, 2024

The Honorable Ash Kalra  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 4610  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### Re: AB 2200 (Kalra) guaranteed Health Care for All – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Kalra,

The County of Monterey is pleased to support your measure Assembly Bill 2200. This bill Creates the California Guaranteed Health Care for All Act. It will establish the California Guaranteed Health Care for All program, or CalCare, to be governed by the CalCare Board (board) and specifies that every state resident is eligible and entitled to enroll as a CalCare member.

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

AB 2022 would improve and expand upon Medicare and Medi-Cal by consolidating existing health care programs into a single, streamlined health system to cover everyone living in California and providing comprehensive benefits to all. The Healthy California for All Commission (HCFA) found that under a single-payer model, with no cost sharing for patients and long-term care for all, California would save between \$32 billion to \$213 billion over ten years compared to our current system. By moving to the single-payer system of CalCare, we would transform the profit-driven health insurance system into a health care system that prioritizes patient care.

CalCare will begin the process of creating a universal single-payer system of health care for California residents. AB 2200 would enact a comprehensive framework of governance, benefits, program standards, and health care cost controls, and will allow California to begin consolidating existing health care programs, obtain necessary federal waivers and determine any future public financing. This is a meaningful step towards building a transformative and equitable health care payment system that will guarantee comprehensive health care and achieve health care justice for all.

For these reasons, the County of Monterey supports AB 2200. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Monterey County's Public Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker of Nossaman LLP at 916-442-8888.

Sincerely,

**Glenn Church, Chair**  
Board of Supervisors



cc: Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Allegra Kim, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Anna Caballero, 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District  
The Honorable John Laird, 17<sup>th</sup> Senate District  
The Honorable Robert Rivas, 29<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)  
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)