



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Los Angeles Residents Would Suffer Financially to Fund Single Payer

(Los Angeles, Ca.) –

Conservative estimates are that Los Angeles residents, and all Californians, would each pay \$9,200 per year (\$767 per month) in additional taxes for health coverage under Senate Bill 562, a bill that would implement a government-run health care system in the state. This tax burden would increase each subsequent year. These additional taxes would hit especially hard on low and middle income Los Angelinos.

SB 562 would dismantle all forms of insurance in California and substitute a single, California government-run system. Retaining current levels of federal funding for healthcare would be a major financing issue, and the State could face having to fund a partial or full shortfall of the federal funding for Medi-Cal, Medicare, VA, DSH (Disproportionate Share Hospital) and community clinic funding.

“LAAHU questions the likelihood that the Trump Administration will make it possible for California to continue receiving full federal funding for health care programs under SB 562” says Alan Katz, LAAHU Immediate Past President. “Given the current political climate, it’s a stretch to expect much cooperation from Washington.”

California’s ability to shoulder additional cost currently funded by the federal government would come at the expense of other state priorities of education, welfare, water, transportation and infrastructure, and likely necessitate cuts to other services and an even greater tax levy on Californians.

In California, the Affordable Care Act is has helped reduce the uninsured rate to a historic low of 7.1%.

“LAAHU members encourage the California Legislature to invest in expanding the ACA, not destroy it with a single payer system. We’re committed to working with the state to increase affordability and expand enrollment, and strengthen the Community Health Clinic network in Los Angeles County to serve the medical needs of those who would continue to fall into coverage gaps” says Dawn McFarland, President of LAAHU.

LAAHU strongly supports universal coverage and believes that the current California bill, SB 562, being heard by the Senate Health Committee tomorrow (April 26, 2017), is a step in the wrong direction.

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For more information, please call Dede Kennedy-Simington at 626.378.5656 or email dede@genesisfinancial.biz.

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