

# Update on Health Care

## The New LWV Position and the CA Commission Report

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Henry L. Abrons, MD, MPH  
LWVC Healthcare Interest Group

# **Update on Health Care**

**The updated LWV Position on Health Care**

**Highlights of the 2022 Healthy CA for All Commission report**

**Proposals to overhaul CA health care**

**The LWVC Healthcare Interest Group**

# **“Legacy” LWV Position on Health Care** (1993, 2016\*)

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that a basic level of **quality health care** at an **affordable cost** should be **available to all U.S. residents**. Other U.S. health care policy goals should include the **equitable distribution** of services, efficient and economical delivery of care, advancement of medical research and technology, and a **reasonable total national expenditure level for health care**.

**\*Behavioral Health added via concurrence**

# Updated LWV Position on Health Care\* (2022)

## Main point

**The League supports the single-payer concept as a viable and desirable approach to implement League positions on equitable access, affordability and financial feasibility.**

Also:

- Expanded delivery options (telehealth, home health)
- Safe staffing
- (a few other points)

*\*Impact on Issues 2022-2024, pages 137-143*

# Healthy CA for All Commission (1)

- Established 2019 to develop “a plan that includes options for advancing progress toward a health care delivery system in California that provides coverage and access through a unified financing system, including, but not limited to, a single-payer financing system, for all Californians.”
- Vision: Health care that is accessible, affordable, equitable, high-quality and universal
- “**Unified financing**” describes a statewide system to arrange, pay for, and assure health care in which:
  - All Californians will be entitled to receive a standard package of health care services
  - Entitlement will not vary by age, employment status, disability status, income, immigration status, or other characteristics
  - Distinctions among Medicare, Medi-Cal, employer-sponsored insurance, and individual market coverage will be eliminated

# Healthy CA for All Commission (2)

## Report (2022):

- Notes shortcomings of status quo
- Analyzes and describes potential advantages of UF
  - lives saved: 4,000 per year
  - \$ saved compared with status quo
    - \$158 billion per year by end of decade
    - \$500 billion in first decade
  - all necessary care included (dental, hearing, vision, Rx, LTSS, etc.)
  - elevates remedies for inequity (racial, economic, rural, etc.)
- Outlines the decisions and actions that will move California toward a unified financing system for health care

# Proposals to overhaul CA health care

## State-based process

- Waiver Development Workgroup (SB770)
- program structure and governance (CalCare, AB1690)
- waiver agreement
- state funding bill
- constitutional issues

Concurrent federal action: *Medicare for All Act* (House [Jayapal]; Senate [Sanders])

## Popular support

- community engagement
- voter education
- coalition

# The League and healthcare reform

- Does your League have a HC committee, team, or interested members?
- LWVC Healthcare Interest Group
  - *Mission: By educating ourselves, LWVC members, and the public, we will increase understanding of health care issues. Through public policy advocacy, guided by the LWVUS position on Health Care, we will strive to achieve an equitable, affordable, high-quality health care system that is available to all.*
  - reactivated after 2021 Convention caucus
  - Google Group ([lwvc-healthcare@googlegroups.com](mailto:lwvc-healthcare@googlegroups.com))
  - 84 members, 20+ Leagues represented
  - monthly zoom meetings



# LWVC Healthcare Interest Group

## What you can do

- learn
- educate your League and community
- advocate
  - speak with one voice as the League
  - speak with your voice as an individual
- Handout has resources and how to join the HCIG

Scan QR code for handout

