

March 5, 2026

Assemblymember Ash Kalra
1021 O Street, Suite 4610
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT – AB 1900 (Kalra) Guaranteed Health Care for All

Dear Asm. Kalra,

The County of Monterey is pleased to support your measure Assembly Bill 1900. 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 United States (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 public financed single-payer system, we consistently report worse health outcomes and disparities among vulnerable populations.

AB 1900 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 1900 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 1900. Should you have any questions, please contact Senior Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker at 916-930-7780.

Sincerely,

Wendy Root Askew, Chair
County of Monterey Board of Supervisors