

# California Chronic Care Coalition

*We're about People, We're about Health*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Chronic Care Advocates Commend Governor Schwarzenegger and Lawmakers for their Continued Efforts to Enact Comprehensive Health Reform**

**SACRAMENTO:** The California Chronic Care Coalition (CCCC), a group of health advocacy and provider organizations, today acknowledged Governor Schwarzenegger for considering the needs of the chronically ill by including critical provisions that will improve the health of all Californians, especially those with pre-existing conditions. CCCC realizes the importance of fixing our broken health care system and commends the administration and lawmakers for their time and diligence to make this happen in 2007.

The Governor's latest proposal includes crucial provisions for people with chronic conditions that will:

- Ensure access to health coverage, including individuals who have pre-existing conditions
- Increase affordability
- Provide that the minimum benefit must cover medical, hospital, preventive care and prescription drug services
- Promote prevention, wellness and personal responsibility

“The proposal language is unique because it centers on prevention and management of chronic conditions with an emphasis on improving long-term health outcomes”, notes Karen Vicari, Executive Director of the Alliance for Better Medicine. “The language promotes transparency and consumer responsibility while preserving the physician-patient relationship and discouraging short-sighted cost cutting.”

The CCCC patient advocacy and provider organizations have been working tirelessly on health care reform since last year. We will continue to work with the administration and lawmakers in order to fix our healthcare system to benefit all Californians.

Together the coalition represents over 16 million Californians with chronic conditions including provider organizations and policy groups, which include: Alliance for Better Medicine; Alzheimer's Association, California Council; American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, (ACOG), District IX; American Diabetes Association; Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America, California Chapter; Breathe California of Sacramento Emigrant Trails; California Hepatitis C Task Force; California Pharmacists Association; California Physical Therapy Association; California Psychiatric Association; Hemophilia Council of California; International Patient Advocacy Association; Individual consumers, Mental Health Association in California; Multiple Sclerosis California Action Network; National Fibromyalgia Association; Pharmacy Foundation of California; and the TMJ and Orofacial Pain Society of America (TOPS).

The California Chronic Care Coalition's mission is to improve the health care system where all Californians can access comprehensive, affordable, quality health care. We do this by educating and collaborating with all branches of government and key stakeholders to re-design a system of care that includes access to quality health care, including wellness and prevention coverage.

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