



May 30, 2017

To: Interested Parties

From: Ben Tulchin, Ben Krompak, and Kiel Brunner; Tulchin Research

Re: [Poll Finds 7 in 10 California Voters Support Healthy California Act](#)

A new Tulchin Research survey finds overwhelming support for the Healthy California Act (California Senate Bill 562), which would establish a Medicare-for-All like system of universal health coverage in the state. Our survey of 600 likely November 2018 voters statewide finds that:

- **Californians have significant concerns about healthcare costs and a majority believes our current healthcare system is in need of major reform;**
- **Most voters reject the American Health Care Act bill supported by President Donald Trump and recently passed by the U.S. House of Representatives; and**
- **A broad-based majority supports a system of universal coverage, either in the form of expanding Medicare to insure all Americans (72% support) or through the Healthy California Act establishing a similar program at the state level (70% support).**

Here we present key findings from the survey.

[Voters Believes Healthcare System Needs Major Reform, Reject “Trumpcare,” and Support Universal Coverage](#)

The survey finds that the cost of healthcare is a significant concern for Californians, with 30 percent of voters identifying it as one of the most serious problems facing the state today, second only to the cost of housing (31%). Additionally, nearly 9 in 10 voters (89%) believes that our healthcare system needs reform, including a majority (51%) who believe it needs “major reform,” to just 7 percent of voters who say the system is fine as it is and requires no reform.

When it comes to how to reform the system, California voters widely agree that Trumpcare is not the answer. Nearly 6 in 10 voters (59%) say they oppose “the American Health Care Act, the healthcare bill supported by President Trump and recently passed by the U.S. House of Representatives” – including 46 percent who “strongly” oppose the AHCA – to just 32 percent who indicate they support it.

Instead, Golden State voters overwhelmingly and consistently support moving to a single-payer system of universal health coverage. More than 7 in 10 voters (72%) support “expanding Medicare to provide health insurance to every American,” including 42 percent who “strongly” support this to just 20 percent who oppose it. Notably, Medicare-for-All attracts majority support across the political spectrum as it is backed by 79 percent of Democrats, 78 percent of independent voters (No Party Preference or third party registrants), and 55 percent of Republicans. Support remains highly consistent when voters are asked about the concept of “establishing a Medicare-for-All like system in California to provide health insurance to every Californian,” with 69 percent of voters supporting this to just 24 percent opposed.

California Voters Reject Trumpcare by Wide Margin, Overwhelmingly Back Universal Coverage			
“Do you support or oppose...?”	Support	Oppose	Support - Oppose
<i>The American Health Care Act, the healthcare bill supported by President Trump and recently passed by the U.S. House of Representatives</i>	32%	59%	-27
<i>Expanding Medicare to provide health insurance to every American</i>	72%	20%	+52
<i>Establishing a Medicare-for-All like system in California to provide health insurance to every Californian</i>	69%	24%	+45

Broad-Based Majority Backs Healthy California Act

Support for universal coverage in California increases further when voters are presented with a specific proposal in the form of the Healthy California Act (S.B. 562). After hearing a basic description of the bill, 70 percent of voters support the Healthy California Act to just 22 percent who oppose it. Notably, the bill attracts “strong” support from 37 percent of the electorate – more than three times the number of voters who “strongly” oppose it (12%).

Healthy California Act Backed By Broad-Based Majority of California Voters				
<i>Here is a description of the Healthy California Act, a bill currently being considered by the California State Legislature. Based on this, do you support or oppose the Healthy California Act?</i>	Support	Oppose	Undecided	Support - Oppose
	<i>Establish the Healthy California program, a public not-for-profit health insurance system similar to Medicare, providing comprehensive universal single-payer health care coverage and a health care cost control system for the benefit of all residents of the state.</i>	70%	22%	7%

The Healthy California Act effectively draws strong support across the state and across partisan, gender, ethnic, and generational lines. Notably, it attracts support from:

- **Nearly 8 in 10 Democrats** (79% support), **more than 7 in 10 independent voters** (72% support), and a **majority of Republicans** (53% support);
- Both **men** (72% support) and **women** (69% support);
- Strong majorities of **white** (71% support), **black** (78% support), **Asian** (70% support), and **Latino** (69% support) voters;
- **Voters age 18-54** (75% support) and **voters age 55+** (64% support); and
- Voters in both **northern California** (72% support) and **southern California** (69% support) and in both **coastal** (74% support) and **inland** (66% support) communities.

It is extremely rare in today’s polarized political environment to find an issue that attracts such strong support among such a broad coalition of the electorate and in particular that unites voters across party lines.

Survey Methodology: Tulchin Research conducted a statewide survey in California among 600 likely November 2018 voters. Interviews were conducted from May 25-29, 2016. The margin of error for this survey is +/- 4 percent.