

PRESS RELEASE



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California Association of Health Plans Response to State Budget Proposal

Sacramento, CA – In his proposed budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year, Governor Brown proposes elimination of the pilot project known as the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI), which coordinates a range of health care, home and community supports through managed care plans in seven counties. However, some components of the CCI are extended, including coordinated care through Cal MediConnect, integrating long-term services and supports into managed care, as well as mandatory enrollment of dual eligibles. ([See Governor’s Budget, pages 54-56.](#))

California Association of Health Plans President and CEO Charles Bacchi offered the following comment in response to the Governor’s budget announcement today:

“By preserving key elements of the CCI, this budget demonstrates the Governor’s commitment to ensuring some of our most vulnerable health care consumers maintain access to a new approach to care that combines and coordinates physical, behavioral and social services under one umbrella.

“We remain committed to working with the Administration to build on the significant progress we have made in bringing together the many pieces of our health care system.

“New [independent research](#) indicates that since the program was launched two years ago, consumers are overwhelmingly satisfied with the care they receive, reporting lower out-of-pocket costs, more streamlined services and increased access to specialty care. We also know that program enrollees are able to stay in their homes longer with individualized care plans and seamless transitions from the hospital to other care settings.

“We believe that the best way to provide these services to more consumers is through a passive enrollment process for Cal MediConnect so that as they become eligible, all obstacles to participating in the program are cleared and members can be immediately begin receiving the benefits of a coordinated system of care. We also know that by expanding the program, additional cost-savings will be achieved.”

[Click here to see the program impact of Cal MediConnect.](#)

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CAHP is a statewide association representing 48 full-service health plans. Through legislative advocacy, education and collaboration with other member organizations, CAHP works to sustain a strong environment in which our member plans can provide access to products that offer choice and flexibility to the more than 28 million members they serve. For more information, please visit <http://www.calhealthplans.org/> or call (916) 552-2910.