

# PROTECT PATIENTS

**REJECT** the **ATTACK** on  
Community Health Centers



## Dangerous Ballot Measure Threatens Care for Millions of Vulnerable Patients

A proposed statewide ballot measure would threaten millions of California patients who rely on community health centers and clinics for their health care. This initiative would divert billions of dollars away from patient care and into new state bureaucracy—forcing health centers and clinics to drastically reduce patient services and even close. Here's why a broad coalition of patients, health care providers, community leaders, and others oppose this ballot initiative:



### A DANGEROUS ATTACK ON PATIENTS

- This ballot measure would divert **billions of dollars** from patient care into new state bureaucracy.
- It would force many health centers and clinics to significantly cut back on patient services, and hundreds of clinics could close—resulting in a devastating loss of access to care for millions of vulnerable patients.



### HURTS CALIFORNIA'S MOST VULNERABLE

- Community health centers and clinics provide a wide range of health care services for millions of Californians, including primary care, prenatal care, urgent care, mental and behavioral health services, telehealth, pharmacy services, dental services, and more.
- Community health centers and clinics care for the most vulnerable—the uninsured, immigrants, people of color, working families, seniors, veterans, members of the LGBTQ+ community, and the medically underserved—regardless of ability to pay.
- This measure will **disproportionately harm disadvantaged patients** already facing federal Medicaid cuts, state budget cuts, and other barriers to care.
- Rather than protecting patients and clinics, this ballot initiative would deliver yet another blow to those most in need.



## WILL INCREASE ER OVERCROWDING AND RAISE HEALTH CARE COSTS FOR ALL CALIFORNIANS

- Community health centers and clinics are often the only source of care in rural and underserved communities.
- If health centers and clinics shut down, many patients will lose access to care, skip preventive services, and end up in emergency rooms with more costly, difficult-to-treat conditions.
- This measure will result in **more crowded ERs** and **longer wait times** for all Californians.
- Furthermore, by forcing patients into more costly forms of care, this ballot measure will increase health care costs for consumers, the state and taxpayers by billions of dollars each year.



## UNNECESSARY

- Community health centers and clinics are **heavily regulated** by the federal and state governments, with strict reporting requirements and audits of how resources are spent on patient care.
- Community health centers and clinics are not-for-profit organizations—focusing resources on patient care and community benefits, not profits or shareholders.
- And a majority of the board of directors must be patients of that facility, ensuring decisions reflect patient and community needs above all else.



## PUTS POLITICS ABOVE PATIENTS

- **This measure is a shameful power play by SEIU-UHW executives who are weaponizing the ballot measure process to force their demands.**
- ***Patients should never be used as pawns.*** Pushing a dangerous ballot measure that will shut down community health centers and harm millions of patients is wrong.

# STOP the Dangerous **ATTACK** on Vulnerable Patients

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