

# CHA Talking Points

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## Gov. Newsom's Health Care Agenda

January 7, 2019

### 1. General:

- Several key proposals in Gov. Gavin Newsom's [health care agenda, released Monday](#), demonstrate that this issue is top of mind for California's new governor. Hospitals stand ready to work with the new administration to advance policies that lead to better health for all Californians.

### 2. On universal coverage:

- As expected, Gov. Newsom is pursuing federal legislative and regulatory changes to implement a single-payer system in California as a potential pathway to universal coverage. This process requires significant federal action whose outcome is uncertain.
- While hospitals do not believe a single-payer system is the best way to achieve universal coverage, hospitals celebrate the governor's desire to extend coverage to the 2.8 million Californians (just 7 percent) who remain uninsured.
- The three immediate means to achieve this that Gov. Newsom has detailed – expanding subsidies for low-income families, the establishment of an individual mandate, and the provision of coverage for undocumented immigrants – are all supported by the Board of the California Hospital Association.

### 3. On a statewide health care leadership position:

- A statewide leadership position focused on addressing far-reaching public health issues, such as the social determinants of health, is a clear and welcome indication that these concerns will be heard and addressed at the highest levels.

### 4. On drug pricing:

- Given the impact of pharmaceuticals on the cost of health care, measures to keep costs in check both improve access to care for patients and reduce the financial burden on the state overall.