



# **CARA Alert – January 10, 2018**

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

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## **MEDICARE FOR ALL RALLY AND HEARING!!! BOARD A BUS TO SACRAMENTO WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17<sup>TH</sup> 11AM RALLY CAPITOL NORTH STEPS 1PM HEARING**

SB 562 - The Healthy CA Act that would guarantee health care for all California residents has been in limbo since the middle of last year. Speaker Rendon decided to hold the bill and not assign it to a committee. Instead, he created a special Select Committee on Universal Health Care to discuss all possibilities for getting to a real Medicare for All Plan in California – all solutions except SB 562 that is. The Healthy CA Campaign and health care activists have attended the two hearings of this select committee that have been held so far and showed the powerful, growing support for SB 562. At the last Select Committee in December, Chairman Wood agreed to have SB 562 discussed at its' next meeting, after much pressure from Committee members Chiu and Friedman, and the public.

**The next meeting of the Select Committee has been announced – and it is being held on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento.** We are hopeful that the Committee will keep its' word and give us a chance to present SB 562 as the only real path to Universal health care in California, and help us get the bill scheduled for an official hearing before the Assembly (this select committee cannot take positions on bills but they can help us advocate to schedule the bill for a hearing where action can be taken). We urge everyone to try and attend this hearing. We will meet at the North Steps of the Capitol at 11am for a Rally. Lunch will be provided after, followed by the hearing at 1pm in Room 4202. The hearing is expected to last until 4pm.

There are several free buses going to Sacramento. The details are below. You can rsvp for one of these buses by calling the CARA office at 510-663-4086 and we will sign you up or you can register online. If you live in an area where there is no bus, we urge you to call you Assemblymember and urge them to ask Speaker Rendon to schedule the bill for a hearing.

### **Bus Locations & Routes:**

You MUST RSVP for a seat by calling CARA at 510-663-4086 OR signing up online at [www.bit.ly/sb562-jan17-rsvp](http://www.bit.ly/sb562-jan17-rsvp)

#### **GRASS VALLEY/AUBURN**

- STOP 1: Departs @ 8:20 am KMART, 111 W McKnight Way, Grass Valley
- STOP 2: Departs @ 9:05 am Burger & Cream, 403 Grass Valley HWY, Auburn
- STOP 3: Departs @ 9:25 am United Domestic Workers, 4220 Rocklin Rd, Rocklin

#### **OAKLAND/BERKELEY**

- STOP 1: Departs @ 7:45 am from CNA Headquarters, 250 22nd Street, Oakland CA
- STOP 2: Departs @ 8:15 am from Ed Roberts Campus across from Ashby Bart, 3075 Adeline St, Berkeley CA

### **SAN JOSE/WALNUT CREEK**

- STOP 1: Departs @ 7:05 am from South Bay Labor Council, 2102 Almaden Rd, San Jose, CA
- STOP 2: Departs @ 8:30 am from Walnut Creek Bart: 200 Ygnacio Valley Rd, Walnut Creek, CA

### **SAN FRANCISCO/RICHMOND**

- STOP 1: Departs @ 7:20 am from San Francisco Public Library, 150 Fulton Street, SF CA
- STOP 2: Departs @ 8:00 am from Target, 4500 MacDonald Ave, Richmond CA

### **FRESNO/MODESTO/STOCKTON**

- STOP 1: Departs @ 6:10 am from Old Mervyn's, 4150 N Blackstone Ave, Fresno CA
- STOP 2: Departs @ 8:20 am from CVS, 2020 W Briggsmore Ave, Modesto, CA
- STOP 3: Departs @ 9:00 am from Clarion Hotel, 4219 East Waterloo Rd, Stockton, CA

## **AB 1506 HEARING – REPEAL COSTA-HAWKINS PROTECT RENTERS IN CALIFORNIA THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018 / 8:30AM / SACRAMENTO**

After months and months of phone calls, letters, and meetings urging the Assembly to allow AB 1506 to be heard, the Assembly Housing Committee is scheduled to hold its' first hearing and vote on AB 1506 which would repeal the state restriction on rent control - the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, January 11th at 9:00am in the State Capitol, Room 4202 at the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee meeting. It's important to get there early so we can get seats in the hearing room (8:30am is advised). If you are interested in attending and need a ride from the Bay Area or somewhere else, please call the CARA office at 877-223-6107. We are looking into carpool opportunities. Everyone else should meet in front of room 4202 and wear your CARA t-shirts, please.

If you cannot attend in person, please call these Assemblymembers who are on the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee (note that some of the members have changed since Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> when Speaker Rendon made committee changes). Call them all (these are Sacramento numbers) – ESPECIALLY if you live in one of these members' districts. Thank you.

## **Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee:**

David Chui (Chair)	916-319-2017
Marc Steinorth (Vice Chair)	916-319-2040
Ed Chau	916-319-2049
Steven Choi, Ph.D.	916-319-2068
Todd Gloria	916-319-2078
Monique Limon (Rob Bonta proxy)	916-319-2018
Jim Wood	916-319-2002



## **2018 WILL BE THE FIGHT OF OUR LIVES! JOIN CARA'S SENIOR VOTE PROJECT**

Congressional Republicans rammed their disgusting, historically unpopular tax bill through both houses of Congress this week. Only 2 of California's 14 Republican Congress members voted against this bill (Issa and Rohrbacher). No Democrats voted for it. Donald Trump signed the bill December 22<sup>nd</sup>, which will personally enrich him at the expense of the rest of us. But our fight is NOT over.

THE GOP Leadership has already indicated that this tax scam is just the first step in their attack on our earned benefits—turning 2018 into an all-out fight to defend Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security.

Analysis after analysis confirms this bill is a disaster for California. It triggers automatic cuts to Medicare, undermines the Affordable Care Act, imperils Social Security, and increases taxes for many middle-class and low-income families just to give the wealthiest among us yet another undeserved advantage.

It's no surprise that this awful bill is deeply unpopular. For weeks, constituents have been protesting at the California offices of GOP members of Congress only to have their concerns fall upon deaf ears. CARA was represented at many of these events, speaking on behalf of the millions of seniors and people with disabilities who will suffer in order to fill the pockets of the wealthiest individuals and corporations.

Our fight is far from over. 2018 offers us an incredible opportunity to educate more people, organize more people, and engage more people to turn out at events in their districts, phone and email their elected representatives, and VOTE for candidates that will represent our interests and protect America's most popular and successful programs – Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security – rather than voting to undermine them as Congress just did. We must let Congress and the President know that we have a long memory – and we will remember next November.

We want to thank each and every one of you who made a phone call, talked to a neighbor, family member or friend, signed a petition, and showed up at a rally to protest these cuts. Make no mistake – your voice was heard. The CA Republican Congressmembers know we are mad as hell, and we will not go away! Let's use this holiday season to reflect on our work, share some good food and good times with friends and family and rejuvenate ourselves so that we are ready to take on 2018 with renewed energy and conviction. Together, we can take back our country. CARA is ready to roll up our sleeves and get to work. We hope you will continue to work with us to make 2018 a year to celebrate. Sign up for CARA's SENIOR VOTE PROJECT as an Ambassador and help us take back our country.

**You can contact CARA at:**

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