



April 1, 2019

The Honorable Melissa Hurtado
California State Capitol, Room 2054
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Re: SB 260 (Hurtado) Automatic health care coverage enrollment – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Hurtado,

I am writing to you on behalf of the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) to support SB 260. CARA is California's largest grassroots senior advocacy organization, representing over 1,000,000 seniors and their families through our 270+ affiliated organizations. Affordable healthcare for all Californians is one of our top priorities.

SB 260 would allow Covered California to directly outreach, educate, and inform about different health plan options to those that lose private insurance coverage, so that they can more easily enroll in Covered California or Medi-Cal. It would also ensure people leaving Medi-Cal can seamlessly enroll in Covered California without gaps in coverage.

This bill would require the Exchange, beginning no later than July 1, 2020, to enroll an individual in the lowest cost silver plan or another plan, as specified, upon receiving the individual's electronic account from a county, or upon receiving information from the State Department of Health Care Services regarding an individual terminated from department-administered health coverage. The bill would require enrollment to occur before Medi-Cal coverage or coverage administered by the State Department of Health Care Services is terminated, and would prohibit the premium due date from being sooner than last day of the first month of enrollment. The bill would require the Exchange to provide an individual who is automatically enrolled in the lowest cost silver plan with a notice that includes specified information, including the individual's right to select another available plan or to not enroll in the plan.

For these reasons, CARA supports SB 260 and looks forward to working with you on its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hene Kelly".

Hene Kelly
Legislative Director
415-533-5244