



CARA Alert – March 22, 2021

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

NEXT FABULOUS FRIDAY FORUM – MARCH 26TH @ NOON

MAKING THE MASTER PLAN ON AGING A REALITY -

[Register here](#)

CARA and St. Barnabas Senior Services are sponsoring a special FRIDAY FORUM on March 26th to present some key strategies to implement the Master Plan on Aging that was released by the Governor in January of this year. Learn about the plan and how you can help make it a reality.

2021 THE YEAR FOR IMPROVED MEDICARE FOR ALL IN CALIFORNIA

SIGN THE PETITION TO GOVERNOR NEWSOM AND PASS IT ON!

<https://bit.ly/CARA-Healthcare>

Improved Medicare for All has been gaining greater traction over the years. And while the odds of passing legislation at the federal level improve every day, the more likely path is probably through the states. In California we are in a unique position to lead the way. Our first step in winning Improved Medicare for All in California is getting Governor Newsom to request a waiver for California to develop a state-based system.

AB 1400 – California Guaranteed Health Act (CalCare) Must be Heard!

On Friday, Feb. 19th, Assemblyman Kalra along with 19 other Assembly and Senate Members introduced AB 1400 – the California Guaranteed Health Act (single payer health care). The bill must be released by the Assembly Rules Committee and have its first hearing in the Assembly Health Committee by the end of April in order to move this year. CARA has endorsed AB 1400 and will be organizing and educating our members and partners on why seniors should support it, and letting you know how you can get involved. If you would like someone from CARA to make a presentation about the CA Guaranteed Health Care Act, please contact us at cynthial.cara@gmail.com or call us toll free at 877-223-6107.

CONGRESSWOMAN PRAMILA JAYAPAL AND 100 OTHER REPS.

INTRODUCE NEW NATIONAL MEDICARE FOR ALL BILL

Last Wednesday, Representative Jayapal and over 100 other Congressmembers introduced a new, improved Medicare for All bill in Congress. The new bill number is H.R. 1976. We urge you to look at the list of co-sponsors. If your Congressman is listed, please call and thank them: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th->

[congress/house-bill/1976](https://www.congress.gov/bills/116/1976). If your Congressman is not on the list, please call and ask them to add their name as a co-sponsor.

WHAT IS THE PRO ACT AND WHY MUST WE SUPPORT IT?

House Democrats have approved a bill that would provide protections for workers trying to organize, a measure that is the labor movement's single biggest legislative priority in this Congress. The [bill](#) passed on March 16th with a [225-206 vote](#), with five Republicans joining Democrats in favor of it.

Union leaders say the Protecting the Right to Organize Act — PRO Act — would finally begin to level a playing field that is currently tilted toward big business and management and makes union organizing drives and elections unreasonably difficult. "The PRO Act would protect and empower workers to exercise our freedom to organize and bargain," said Richard Trumka, President of the AFL-CIO. "It's a game changer. If you really want to correct inequality in this country — wages and wealth inequality, opportunity, and inequality of power, we must pass the PRO Act." CARA agrees and energetically supports this measure.

Now the bill moves to the Senate, which is narrowly controlled by the Democrats, but not by enough to overcome a filibuster. We must make sure that the PRO Act is heard, and passed in the Senate. Please contact both Senators Feinstein and Padilla and urge their support.

CARA SUPPORTS HEALTH CARE FOR ALL – NOT A RECALL!!!

The CARA Board of Directors voted to oppose the recall effort of Governor Newsom being sponsored by the GOP. Especially at this moment, when our local communities, state and the nation are struggling to vaccinate everyone and build a social and economic future to take us out of this pandemic, we should be focused on efforts that will move us forward, not backward. The GOP's focus on tax breaks for the wealthy and against health care for all, a \$15 minimum wage, and climate justice (to name a few) are their rationale for a recall effort. We cannot let these harsh, unjust policies win the day.

With so much at stake, CARA strongly opposes the proposed recall of Governor Newsom and urges our members NOT to sign any petition being circulated at this time. Should the recall effort make it to the ballot, we need to be prepared.

SAVE THESE DATES:

MARCH 26TH @ NOON – MASTER PLAN ON AGING FORUM

APRIL 23RD @ NOON – TRAINING: ADVOCATING WITH PUBLIC OFFICIALS

MAY 14TH @ NOON – TRAINING FOR MAY 21ST LOBBY DAY

MAY 21ST – CARA VIRTUAL LOBBY DAY WITH YOUR LEGISLATOR.

CARA will be coordinating virtual meetings with all 120 state legislators on this date. If you would like to participate in a Zoom or teleconference meeting with your state Assemblymember or Senator, you can sign up by contacting caralobby@gmail.com.

OCTOBER 26th & 27th – CARA STATEWIDE CONVENTION (VIRTUALLY).

CARA will be sponsoring our 18th Annual Convention this year – virtually. The event will be held over 2 days – 4 hours on the first day and 2.5 hours on the 2nd day. Great speakers, workshops, election of officers, door drawing for great prizes, bingo, dancing, singing and more. Mark these dates in your calendar NOW. More information will be sent, and a registration link, as the program is confirmed.

TOO MANY FUNDRAISING LETTERS FROM THE ARA?

Several CARA members have expressed concern that they receive too much mail/email from the ARA asking for money. Yes, this is one of the major ways that the ARA raises much needed funds. But you can ask to be taken off their list if you do not want to receive their solicitations. CARA does not have anything to do with these fundraising requests, nor do we receive any funds from the ARA.

Contact CARA:

MAIN OFFICE: 600 Grand Ave. #410, Oakland, CA 94610/ 510-663-4086 /

TOLL-FREE 1-877-223-6107 / FAX: 510-663-4099/ www.californiaalliance.org

NORTH: 415-515-2156 / jreid.cara@gmail.com

CENTRAL VALLEY: 415-515-2156/ jreid.cara@gmail.com (Modesto – Fresno) 714-460-3542/ smeyer.cara@gmail.com for Bakersfield

SOUTH:

LA COUNTY: 917-434-3220/ jennichang.cara@gmail.com

ORANGE/SAN DIEGO/ INLAND EMPIRE: 714-460-3542/smeyer.cara@gmail.com