



CARA Alert – January 25, 2022

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

JANUARY 2022 STARTS WITH A BANG!

(CARA Alerts are now translated into Spanish at end of each Alert)

Let us embrace our collective success as all FOUR of CARA's priority legislation has advanced to the last step of the critical 2-year bill process - the floor vote in the house of origin. Without your continued advocacy as organizations, individuals or in conjunction with CARA, and or our affiliated partners and coalitions, many of these bills would have succumbed to the mounting pressure from the opposition. Thankfully, we are one step closer to advancing policies integral to enhancing environmental and housing justice, reforming our broken health care system, and bolstering the oversight of skilled nursing facilities.

We need you once again to lead our advocacy efforts to ensure these bills pass the floor vote this week -by January 27th if possible. Please review the instructions below to learn how you can partake in this effort.

Timeline:

All 2-year bills, including all FOUR of CARA's priority legislation, must pass the Floor vote in their house of origin on or by **January 31st**; however, we expect most of our bills to be voted on Thursday, January 27th. Please contact the listed Assembly/Senate offices - **at your earliest convenience** - imploring the legislator to vote in favor of CARA's priority legislation. You can also access the target list for each bill in the attached files.

CARA Priority Bills: Jan 31st deadline:

AB 1400 (CalCare)/ Authors: Asm. Ash Kalra, Asm. Lee, Asm. Santiago

Click [HERE](#) to view CARA's Support Letter

Ask: Call the district office of the Democratic Assemblymembers who are not listed as a co-author. **Click [HERE](#)** for the list of target floor votes

AB 854 (Ellis Act Reform)/ Author: Asm. Alex Lee

Click [HERE](#) to view CARA's Support Letter

Ask: Call the District offices for the following Assembly Democrats. **Click [HERE](#)** for the list of target floor votes.

AB 1502 (Nursing Home Ownership Reform Act)/ Authors: Asm. Muratsuchi, Asm. Jim Wood

Click [HERE](#) to view CARA's Support Letter

Ask: Call the district offices for the following Assembly Democrats. **Click [HERE](#)** for the list of target floor votes.

SB 260 (Climate Corporate Accountability Act)/ Author: Sen Scott Wiener

Click [HERE](#) to view CARA Support Letter

Ask: Call the district offices for the following Senate Democrats. **Click [HERE](#)** for the list of target floor votes.

Once again, please call the targeted offices at your earliest convenience but no later than Wednesday, January 26th. Let's make one final push for these bills!

FABULOUS FRIDAY FORUMS RETURN IN FEBRUARY!!!!!!

CARA is proud to announce the return of our Fabulous Friday Forums – starting in February. You must register for each of these Forums separately. Here is the information. We hope to see you at these informative and fun events.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH at 12 NOON PST

***NEXT STEPS IN THE FIGHT FOR
GUARANTEED HEALTH CARE IN CALIFORNIA***

[REGISTER HERE](#)

By the time of this Forum, the fate of AB 1400 will be clear – it will either have passed the full California Assembly – and will move on to the Senate – or the bill in its' current form will be dead. Either way, there is a path forward to win Guaranteed Health Care for All in California. We will need to stay focused, united, and organized to move this essential policy forward. Find out what we must do next, how to advocate on behalf of yourself, your organization, and your community.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH at 12 NOON PST

CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

[REGISTER HERE](#)

February is Black History Month. It is a time to celebrate our Black leaders – past and present - and take stock of how far we've come and how far we still need to go to win true racial, social, and economic justice for Black communities (and all marginalized communities, especially communities of color). Please come and support some of CARA's leaders as we celebrate and fight for racial justice.

Social Security 2100 A Sacred Trust Introduced (HR 5723)!!!

**CALL YOUR CONGRESSMEMBER TODAY- VOTE YES ON HR 5723.
CALL THE CAPITOL SWITCHBOARD AT 202-224-3121**

On October 26th, 2021 Congressman Larson (CT) introduced HR 5723, the Social Security 2100 Act. This bill will increase Social Security benefits for all beneficiaries, improve the COLA formula, repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO), increase benefits for the oldest old, reduce waiting periods, provide caregiver credits, strengthen the service of the Social Security Administration, make it easier to get SSI and SSDI and begin to SCRAP the CAP by ensuring that millionaires and billionaires pay their fair share by applying FICA to earnings above \$400,000.

The time is **NOW** to talk with our own Congressional Representatives to urge their support of this important legislation. We want this bill heard by the full House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate this year. Please call your Congressman and urge their support. Find your Congressman and their contact information here:

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

MEDICARE PRIVATIZATION WILL KILL MEDICARE

The continued privatization of the Medicare program through Medicare Advantage plans, and Direct Contracting Entities (DCEs) is undermining the Medicare Trust Fund while filling the pockets of private insurers, hospital systems and some providers. At the same time, costs are going up for beneficiaries while choice of providers is being limited. We must fight to protect Medicare and work to meet the original goals of Medicare and Medicaid by covering everyone at less cost with choice of providers.

CARA is working with coalition partners urge the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Administrator Dr. Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, add Secretary of the Dept. of Health and Human Services, Xavier Becerra to stop these DCEs. You can help by contacting your own Congressman and urge them to ask the Center for Medicare and Medicaid and Secretary Becerra to end these DCE's and privatization of the Medicare program.

USPS—Covid Tests (4 per household)

Get your free at home covid tests by going to the USPS website here:

<https://special.usps.com/testkits>

Contact CARA: NEW MAILING ADDRESS

MAILING ADDRESS: 1675 7TH ST. /P.O. BOX 23754, OAKLAND, CA 94623 510-663-4086 / **TOLLFREE** 1-877-223-6107/ www.californiaalliance.org

STAFF CONTACTS:

Administrative Coordinator: Cynthia Lopez, cynthial.cara@gmail.com/ 510-663-4086

Legislative/Pol. Director: Dwane Camp, Jr., dcamp.cara@gmail.com/ 415-305-1481

Communications Director: Jenni Chang, jennichang.cara@gmail.com/ 323-645-0955

Executive Director: Jodi Reid, jreid.cara@gmail.com/ 415-515-2156

REGIONAL ORGANIZERS:

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

CENTRAL VALLEY: Yesenia Cuevas, ycuevas.cara@gmail.com/ 209-354-7489
(Stockton-Bakersfield)

SOUTH:

LA COUNTY: Jenni Chang/ 323-645-0955/ jennichang.cara@gmail.com

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

Get Social with CARA!

*Did you know that CARA is on Facebook? Learn about our local activities and meetings, town halls and about other news affecting retirees. **Be sure to like our CARA Facebook page here.** Make sure your friends and family like this page too. Help retirees build power by liking CARA's Facebook page. Every like and share help spread our message.*

And now we're on Twitter too! Follow us at @CARASeniors