



## **CARA Alert – February 7, 2022**

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

### **FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH – LET’S CELEBRATE! (CARA Alerts are now translated into Spanish at end of each Alert)**

CARA has kicked off our Fabulous Friday Forums for 2022. Our first forum focused on the [next steps for Guaranteed Health Care for All in California](#). You can view it on our website (all Forums are recorded on our website at [www.californiaalliance.org](http://www.californiaalliance.org)). Please register for our next Forum, on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>:

#### **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.

#### **TWO CARA PRIORITY BILLS MOVE FORWARD: AB 1502 AND SB 260**

All 4 of CARA’s priority bills had a January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline to pass out of their house of origin. Two of them made it and will now move on to their second house. They are:

**AB 1502 (Nursing Home Ownership Reform Act)/** Asm Muratsuchi, Asm Jim Wood  
Click [HERE](#) to view CARA's Support Letter

**SB 260 (Climate Corporate Accountability Act)/ Author:** Sen Scott Wiener  
Click [HERE](#) to view CARA Support Letter

These two bills will be scheduled next in the Committee of Jurisdiction in the second house in the coming weeks – stay tuned for updates and hearing schedules.

#### **TWO CARA PRIORITY BILLS DEAD – FOR NOW: AB 1400 AND AB 854**

CARA’s other two priority bills did not make it on the Assembly floor:

**AB 1400 (CalCare)/ Author:** Asm Ash Kalra, Asm Lee, Asm Santiago

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

In fact, both authors pulled the bills rather than bring them up for a vote, as they knew they did not have the votes to pass them. However, the campaigns to win Guaranteed Health Care for All and to protect tenants from Ellis Act Evictions continue. We will be sharing the next action steps in future CARA Alerts.

The CARA Legislative Committee is now reviewing NEW Bills that have been introduced this year (deadline for new bills is Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>) and we will be determining which of these might become priority bills for CARA as well. Stay tuned.

## **MEDICARE PRIVATIZATION WILL KILL MEDICARE!** **Send a Valentines' Message to Speaker Pelosi**

Forty-two percent of Medicare delivery is already privatized through Medicare Advantage programs, which profit from restricting patient care and overcharging Medicare. Now there is a movement to push the remaining 58% of patients on Traditional Medicare into private plans called Direct Contracting Entities ( DCEs), which also profit from restricting patient care and overcharging Medicare. Many patients are on Traditional Medicare because they are too ill for the reduced benefits of private plans, yet these are the very patients that are first being targeted for transfer into private DCEs.

Please join us in a Valentine's Day campaign to generate a storm of letters, emails and social media Facebook posts and Tweets to House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi, demanding she stop DCEs, and hold Congressional hearings on this dangerous plan.

### **HOW YOU CAN HELP!!**

Please print out this two-page document <https://bit.ly/NoDCEs> , then sign the first page, put it in a stamped envelope and send it to:

**House Speaker Nancy Pelosi**  
**1236 Longworth H.O.B.**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

### **Contact CARA: NEW MAILING ADDRESS**

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