

PRESS RELEASE



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CAHP Issues Response To Newsom's State-of-the-State Address

Sacramento, CA— California Association of Health Plans President and CEO Charles Bacchi issued the following statement today in response to Governor Gavin Newsom's first state-of-the-state address:

"Health plans are ready to work with the Governor to make health care more affordable for Californians. This can be achieved if everyone in our health care system is willing to step up and take meaningful actions to reduce health care costs.

"We agree with the Governor that our first step toward improving affordability is to protect the gains we've made under the Affordable Care Act by enacting a state-based Individual Shared Responsibility Requirement to have health coverage. This will help to stabilize the market and generate hundreds of millions in new state funding annually that can be used to help make health coverage more affordable for low-income and working families and individuals in California.

"This along with expanding coverage to undocumented adults will help us close in on universal coverage and ultimately foster affordability by reducing costly uncompensated visits to the emergency room and by promoting healthier communities with preventive care."

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CAHP is a statewide association representing 47 full-service health plans. Through legislative advocacy, education and collaboration with other member organizations, CAHP works to sustain a strong environment in which our member plans can provide access to products that offer choice and flexibility to the more than 25 million members they serve. For more information, please visit

<http://www.calhealthplans.org/> or call (916) 552-2910.