

# NO on SB 524: Puts Patients at Risk and Increases Health Care Costs



**SB 524** will raise health care costs for Californians by eliminating the vital tools health plans, employers, unions, and the state use to lower the cost of health insurance and prescription drugs. Specifically, it would prohibit health plans and insurers from promoting more cost-efficient avenues to help patients visiting pharmacies obtain their prescription drugs at the best value. It will also undermine patient-safety requirements by allowing pharmacies to dispense specialty drugs without requiring the highest standards of quality and care.

SB 524 ultimately will lead to higher out-of-pocket costs on prescriptions, more expensive premiums, and increased deductibles for Californians – all while putting the most vulnerable patients at risk.

## SB 524 will:



- **Raise health care costs** for California patients and their families by limiting the essential tools employers use to lower the cost of health insurance and prescription drugs.
- **Put patients at risk** by undermining all the important safety and quality requirements for pharmacies that handle specialty medications.
- **Place harmful restrictions** on how employers and unions design pharmacy benefit plans to lower prescription drug costs – instead of letting them create the individual high-quality, affordable plans that keep their costs low AND help their employees and members pay less at the pharmacy counter.
- **Increase health care costs** for unions, employers, and health plans by limiting their ability to use lower-cost pharmacy options.

# NO ON SB 524.