

The Pass Democrat

Newsletter of the Pass Democratic Club—July 2017

Visit the Pass Democratic Club website: www.passdems.org
and the Pass Democratic Club on Facebook and Twitter (@DemocraticPass)

Setting the Record Straight on CA SB 562

The CA Senate Appropriations Committee determined that SB 562 would cost \$400B to cover everyone and was thus unaffordable. Not widely reported, is that we already spend \$365B while leaving millions uninsured or underinsured (14.7M Californians). The Committee's speculative \$400B report included no cost savings that comes with a single-payer system. Since the financial study had not yet been completed, details of the savings and funding mechanism were not included.

The financial study is now out (<https://youtu.be/d8xKnYYB684>) and findings show it would actually cost \$331B, saving \$70B while providing everyone with much better services like dental and vision. Under 562, California's total spending on health care, with savings of 18% produced by reductions in administrative costs, the use of state bulk purchasing power, and improved patient care delivery, would drop to \$331B. That figure includes \$225B of current taxpayer-funded spending on Medicare, Medicaid and tax subsidies. And yes, there is a plan on financing the extra \$ needed. A 2.3% tax on business' gross receipts has occasionally been reported, but there is an exemption for the first \$2M. The other means of raising money is a 2.3% sales tax (not on food and utilities), replacing current spending on premiums, deductibles, copays, dental, vision; and seniors medigap insurance. There is also a 2.3% tax credit for lower income earners.

The negative media attention minus the facts apparently worked and California Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon announced on June 23rd that he was placing a "hold" on the bill, effectively killing it for at least the rest of 2017. The bill passed the CA State Senate last month, but will now be denied a similar floor vote by the State Assembly this year.



Dr Ruiz scored Dems 1st run in Congressional baseball game!

July Meeting










Wednesday, July 19th

175 W. Hays St., Banning
(10 freeway, exit 8th St N, right
Ramsey, left 2nd, right Hays)

Doors open at 5:45pm
Meeting begins at 6:30pm**

Special Presentation:
on Planned Parenthood
in the Trump Administration
by Jacqueline Casillas
Community and Government
Relations Manager
Planned Parenthood Action Fund

Key Differences Between Obamacare And The House And Senate Health Care Bills

	Current law	GOP bills	
	AFFORDABLE CARE ACT	HOUSE BILL	SENATE BILL
 Individual mandate	Most people are required to have health insurance ; those without insurance pay a penalty.	No coverage mandate , and allows insurers to charge 30% more to people who enroll in a new plan after letting their coverage lapse for more than two months.	No coverage mandate.
 Employer mandate	Large employers face penalties if they don't offer employees health insurance.	Eliminates employer mandate.	Eliminates employer mandate.
 Tax credits	Tax credits for people buying insurance vary based on age, income and the cost of insurance in their area.	Tax credits would vary by age, but otherwise be fixed – effectively helping some younger and healthier consumers, while hurting older, low-income people and those living in more expensive markets.	Tax credits would vary by income at a lower eligibility level than under the ACA . The credits are smaller because their value is tied to the cost of less-generous insurance than under the ACA. CHANGE FROM HOUSE BILL
 Age-based pricing	Limits how much insurers can charge older people to three times what younger customers pay.	Insurers can charge older consumers up to five times what they charge younger people, leading to higher costs for older people and lower costs for younger policyholders.	Insurers can charge older consumers up to five times what they charge younger people, leading to higher costs for older people and lower costs for younger policyholders.
 Pre-existing conditions	Insurers cannot deny coverage due to pre-existing conditions or charge higher rates based on patients' health or medical histories.	Allows states to let insurers opt out of covering people with pre-existing conditions . Provides funding for states to set up high-risk pools or other mechanisms to cover people pre-existing conditions instead.	Insurers cannot deny coverage due to pre-existing conditions or charge higher rates based on patients' health or medical histories. CHANGE FROM HOUSE BILL
 Medicaid	States can choose to expand Medicaid eligibility to include healthy adults.	Ends Medicaid expansion. States would receive less federal Medicaid funding overall.	Ends Medicaid expansion. States would receive less federal Medicaid funding overall. The Senate bill includes deeper Medicaid cuts than the House bill. CHANGE FROM HOUSE BILL
 Essential health benefits	Insurers are required to cover basic benefits , like hospital visits and maternity care.	States can waive essential health benefit requirements , allowing insurers to exclude coverage for health care products and services.	States can waive essential health benefit requirements , allowing insurers to exclude coverage for health care products and services.
 Planned Parenthood	Federal funds cannot pay for abortions, but the organization is eligible for Medicaid payments and federal grants .	The organization cannot receive federal funds for one year.	The organization cannot receive federal funds for one year.
 Taxes	Levies taxes on wealthy people and health care companies to finance expanding coverage.	Repeals most of those taxes.	Repeals most of those taxes.

Icons by the Noun Project.

HuffPost

Apparently, saving \$1T on Medicaid to use for capital gains/estate tax reform is moral and ethical!!

Courageous Resistance

ellen@climateactionps.com

SUNDAY, JULY 2ND IMPEACHMENT MARCH IN LOS ANGELES.

If you are interested in taking the bus to the Impeachment March in LA, please contact Becki Roberson at becki67982@gmail.com with your FULL NAME, EMAIL ADDRESS and CELL PHONE number ASAP-seats are limited!

WEDNESDAY, 7/5, 6PM PALM SPRINGS SOLAR ORDINANCE

It's time for our leaders to take action to limit climate change. That means cutting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Lisa Middleton, PS Planning Commission and Candidate for City Council will speak. More info from [com](http://com.com).

GENERAL PLANNING MEETING:

Register now for our next meeting on **MONDAY, JULY 10th at 6 PM**, even if you have attended other meetings. Please register ASAP - we have the big room at Mizell but we tend to fill up early!

ALSO same night: ARE WE THERE YET? Impeachment and Investigation Essentials.

Our own Lynne O'Neill, legal advisory coordinator for the Courageous Resistance, will be speaking.

Register at :
[http://
act.couragecampaign.org/
event/
CourageousResistance-
CommunityMeetings/736](http://act.couragecampaign.org/event/CourageousResistance-CommunityMeetings/736)

My fellow citizens,

The rise of this blustering man
bewilders the educated among us,
conjoins opposing politicians,
agonizes our international allies,
threatens minorities,
spits on the disabled,
and touches the hearts of those
who just don't know any better.

Let us stop propounding how mad this all is,
but instead, do something.

Liselotte Hubner
Germany, 1929



Democrats and the Implementation of Marijuana Legalization By Lanny Swerdlow

Democrats have been playing a major role in the implementation of marijuana legalization in California. In combining Prop. 64 and Prop. 215 as outlined in Gov. Brown's trailer bill, Democrats have crafted a truly spectacular piece of legislation that really puts California into the forefront of state programs legalizing marijuana. If you want to know what Democrats have done and how California's legal marijuana program is going to work and how it will impact you go to my article at [http://
www.marijuananeews.org/hitching21564](http://www.marijuananeews.org/hitching21564) entitled Hitching 215 and 64 Together - Better than Same-Sex Marriage?

In this information, I also include information on a Commercial Cannabis Town Hall conference being sponsored by Assemblyman Reginald Jones-Sawyer (D-L.A.). The conference features Lori Ajax, head of the Bureau of Cannabis Regulation and representatives from the California Dept. of Public Health and California Dept. of Food and Agriculture - the agencies that are writing and will be implementing the regulations for the cannabis industry. If you have any inclination of wanting to be involved in California's multi-billion dollar cannabis industry and you consider yourself in reasonable commuting distance to Los Angeles, you will want to attend this conference.

Lanny Swerdlow, RN LNC
Member – Pass Democratic Club
Chairperson & Founder
Brownie Mary Democrats of California

Pass Democratic Club
P.O. Box 724
Banning, CA 92220



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Join or Renew Invite a Friend

Pass Democratic Club
PO Box 724
Banning CA 92220

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Employer Name _____

Employer Address _____

Must be a registered Democrat.
Enclose \$30 individual
or \$50 for two at same address

Important Contacts:

US Senator Dianne Feinstein (310) 914-7300
US Senator Kamala Harris (213) 894-5000
US Representative Raul Ruiz, M.D.. (760) 424-8888
ST Senator Mike Morrell (R) (951) 919-7731
ST Assemblymember Chad Mayes (760) 346-6342
County Supervisor Marion Ashley (951) 955-1050
cadem.org,
Invivisibleguide.com
riversidecountymdemocrats.org

Executive Board Meeting:

Saturday August 2 SLCC Atrium 6PM

Executive Board Members:

PRESIDENT - Jackie Atwood 951-849-4986
1st VP MEMBERSHIP - Betty McMillion 951-769-6636
**2nd VP VOTER REGISTRATION AND
POLITICAL ACTION** - Sylvia Carrillo
RECORDING SEC'RY - Nancy Sappington
CORRESPONDING/LOGISTICS - Betty Ann James
TREASURER - Marlene Damato

Committee Chairs:

COMMUNICATIONS/PROGRAM - Shawn Holt
NEWSPAPER LIAISON - Clara Wooten-Thomas
PARLIAMENTARIAN - Pelton Teague
SCHOLARSHIPS - Blanche Teague

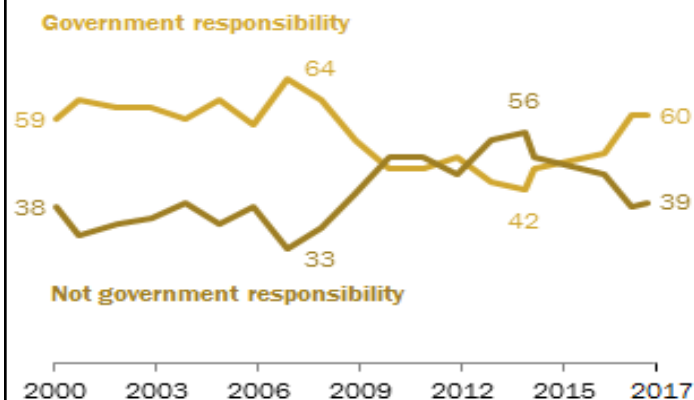


Top Left: Altie Holcomb, Board of Supervisor Candidate's 1st successful event!

Top right and left: Our own members at the California State Democratic Convention!

Share saying govt is responsible for ensuring health coverage has increased

Is it the responsibility of the federal government to make sure that all Americans have health care coverage? (%)

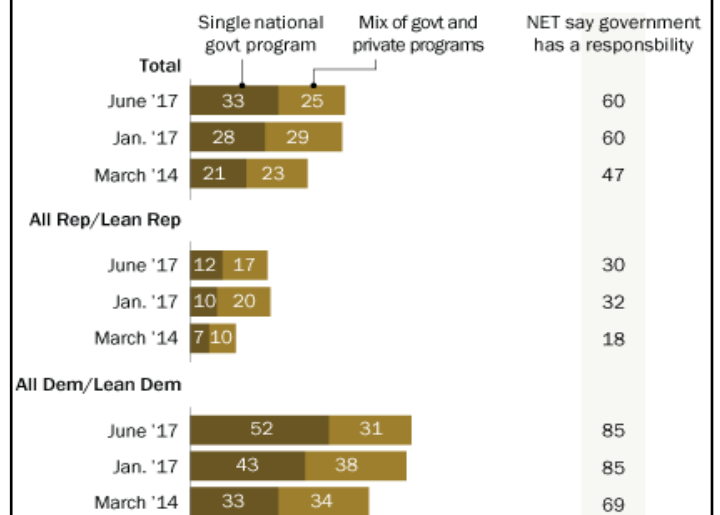


Notes: 2000-2013 data from Gallup.
Don't know responses not shown.
Source: Survey conducted June 8-18, 2017.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Support for single payer grows among Democrats

% who say the federal government has a responsibility to make sure all Americans have health care coverage, through a ...



Note: Don't know responses not shown.
Source: Survey conducted June 8-18, 2017.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Welcome back to the RESISTANCE Democrats!!

RESISTance against repealing our AMERICAN freedoms & rights! 23M Americans will lose health-care coverage with the AHCA!

RESISTance of fascist & racist Anti-Immigrant laws! CA = Sanctuary State!!

RESISTance of Rich Southern Confederates who oppose minimum wage increases! Keeping the poorman poor! Democrats already have \$15/hr in LA and NYC!

RESISTance to Rich Southern Confederates who want to remove unions state-by-state. They already did it in Wisconsin!

RESISTance to Rich Southern Confederates who have taken away Healthcare 4 ALL by taking away Affordable Care Act! Instead, the Rich get tax cuts! B enraged!

RESISTance to Southern

Confederates who believe in slavery promoting For Profit Prison systems to imprison our brown & black brothers & sisters while they make \$!!

RESISTance to billionaire Betsy DeVos' scheme to defund & privatize public schools so only the rich can attend!

RESISTance to climate change/science deniers because we know they only want to make money off of raping our ONLY Planet Earth without any regard 4 future!

RESISTance to desecrators of our American National Monuments! Did you know the NDakota/SDakota pipeline has already started to leak oil into the River??

RESISTance to trying to take away my weed!! Yes, Jeffrey Beauregard Sessions, our southern confederate attorney general wants to roll back medicinal marijuana, too!! Thank

goodness for Lanny Swerdlow & Cali's Ganja Sanctuary State!

We, The People of these United States continue to be in an unprecedented Constitutional Crisis!! As Chris Hayes summed it up: we're falling off a cliff but we continue to fall & are still falling!!!

There is a "spy hunt" within our own government & no one knows where it will end. WE WANT A LEADER, NOT A CREEPY TWEETER!

Robert Mueller's Dream Team? Attorneys who specialize in "flipping" past mobsters. Expert Attorneys in Foreign Finance, money laundering, even attorneys with Russian language skills. Come on Dept of Treasury with those Campaign Finance Records!!

Come on Deep State! Our American spies embedded within our government leaking info to American

people thru media, giving us HOPE!! Speaking of Hope, Hope is everywhere! Look for "political" upcoming movies empowering women & diversity! Even Shaq has an Icy Hot commercial out now where he is wearing a blue t-shirt and mentions the 99%!!

We always NEED volunteers for protests, voter registration & other events including local parades! Please check our website passdems.org. Facebook & Twitter often for upcoming protests & marches against local and national Republicans! Let's repeal & replace Republicans! Also, spread the word that we will register you to vote here at our General Membership Meetings because we DESPERATELY need to turn Beaumont from Red to Blue & keep Riverside County & our beautiful CALIFORNIA BLUE!!!!

We, the people, shall resist, persist, OVERCOME!!

Thank you, Sylvia Carrillo

Another at the CA state convention!



COUNTRY	RATIO OF PAY CEO VS. AVG WORKER
JAPAN	11:1
GERMANY	12:1
FRANCE	15:1
ITALY	20:1
CANADA	20:1
SOUTH AFRICA	21:1
BRITAIN	22:1
MEXICO	47:1
VENEZUELA	50:1
USA	475:1

After another demoralizing loss, Democrats need a new message and a reboot!

Republicans just wiped out Democrats in five congressional races. Democrats somehow keep failing to beat them. The lesson in almost all of these instances seems to be that enormous numbers of voters would rather elect an openly corrupt or mentally deranged Republican than vote for a Democrat. But nobody in the Democratic Party seems terribly worried about this. The standard-bearer for unelectable candidates who were elected anyway will likely always be Donald Trump. Trump openly insulted almost every conceivable demographic. And still won. This is not an exception. It is the rule in modern America, which in recent years has repeatedly demonstrated its willingness to vote for just about anybody not currently under indictment for serial murder, so long as that person is not a Democrat.

The electoral results last November have been repeated enough that most people in politics know them by heart. Republicans now control 68 state legislative chambers, while Democrats only control 31. Republicans flipped three more governors' seats last year and now control an incredible 33 of those offices. Since 2008, when Barack Obama first took office, Republicans have gained somewhere around 900 to 1,000 seats overall. There are a lot of reasons for this. But there's no way to spin some of these numbers in a way that doesn't speak to the awesome unpopularity of the blue party. Unsurprisingly, the disintegrating Trump bears a historically low approval rating. But polls also show that the Democratic Party has lost five percentage points in its own approval rating dating back to November. The Democrats are now hovering around 40 percent, just a hair over the Trump-tarnished Republicans, at 39 percent. Similar surveys have shown that despite the near daily barrage of news stories pegging the president as a bumbling incompetent in the employ of a hostile foreign power, Trump, incredibly, would still beat Hillary Clinton in a rematch today, and perhaps even by a larger margin than before. According to legend, Democrats lose because of media bias, racism, gerrymandering, James Comey and Russia. Third-party candidates are said to be another implacable obstacle to Democratic success, as is unhelpful dissension within the Democrats' own ranks. America is obviously a deeply racist and paranoid country. Gerrymandering is a serious problem. Unscrupulous, truth-averse right-wing media has indeed spent decades bending the brains of huge pluralities of voters, particularly the elderly. And Republicans have often, but not always, had fundraising advantages in key races.

However, the explanations themselves speak to a larger problem. The unspoken subtext of a lot of the Democrats' excuse-making is their growing belief that the situation is hopeless – and not just because of fixable institutional factors like gerrymandering, but because we simply have a bad/irredeemable electorate that can never be reached. Things are so polarized now that each side views the other not as fellow citizens with whom they happen to disagree, but as a "threatening enemy to be vanquished." The "deplorables" comment formalized the idea that Democrats had given up on a huge chunk of the population, and now sought only to defeat and subdue their enemies. Many will want to point out here that the Republicans are far worse on this score. No politician has been more divisive than Trump, who explicitly campaigned on blaming basically everyone but middle American white people for the world's problems. This is true. But just because the Republicans win using deeply cynical and divisive strategies doesn't mean it's the right or smart thing to do. Barack Obama continually insisted that the Democrats needed to find a way to reach lost voters. He talked about the challenge the Democrats faced in finding ways to reconnect with people who felt ignored and had fled to "antipathy toward people who aren't like them" as a consequence. Even as he himself was the subject of vicious and racist rhetoric, Obama stumped in the reddest of red districts. Obama was trying to point out that people respond when you demonstrate that you don't believe they're unredeemable. You can't just dismiss people as lost, even bad or misguided people. Unless every great thinker from Christ to Tolstoy to Gandhi to Dr. King is wrong, it's especially those people you have to keep believing in, and trying to reach. The Democrats have forgotten this. Democrats in general have lost the ability (and the inclination) to reach out to the entire population. They're continuing, if not worsening, last year's mistake of running almost exclusively on Trump/Republican negatives. The Correct the Record types who police the Internet on the party's behalf are relentless on that score, seeming to spend most of their time denouncing people for their wrong opinions or party disloyalty. They don't seem to have anything to say to voters in flyover country, except to point out that they're (at best) dupes for falling for Republican rhetoric. But "Republicans are bad" isn't a message or a plan, which is why the Democrats have managed the near impossible: losing ground overall during the singular catastrophe of the Trump presidency. The party doesn't see that the largest group of potential swing voters out there doesn't need to be talked out of voting Republican. It needs to be talked out of not voting at all. The recent polls bear this out, showing that the people who have been turned off to the Democrats in recent months now say that in a do-over, they would vote for third parties or not at all. People need a reason to be excited by politics, and not just disgusted with the other side. Until the Democrats figure that out, these improbable losses will keep piling up.

Promote a Healthy California through Single Payer Healthcare

WHEREAS the 2016 California Democratic Party platform states, “California Democrats believe that healthcare is a human right not a privilege. We recognize the health and well-being of Californians cannot continue to be based on arbitrary private and public financial decisions and therefore advocates legislation to create and implement a publicly funded (single-payer), privately delivered, fiscally tractable, comprehensive, secure, high-quality, efficient, and sustainable health care system for all Californians” and the California Democratic Party has been on record for over a decade in support of a single payer system to guarantee universal healthcare for all in California; and

WHEREAS now is the time that Democrats locally and nationally need to unite behind a vision of universal healthcare that provides access and services to all, regardless of income or citizenship status, given that 81% of Democrats nationally support a Medicare for All-like system and studies have shown billions will be saved by moving to such a system with the last study showing it would save \$344 billion in healthcare costs nationally over 10 years with \$44 billion saved in California alone; and

WHEREAS we must move quickly to protect, improve upon, and expand the healthcare gains made under the Affordable Care Act, which are now under attack by President Trump and Congressional Republicans, as California could lose \$20 billion in federal funds, negatively impacting the state budget and essential public health services like our public hospitals and publicly funded non-profit neighborhood clinics, which have had a long-term commitment of providing quality and culturally competent healthcare and emergency room access to vulnerable and poor communities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports efforts to create a Medicare for All-like single payer program in California that would provide comprehensive, secure, and quality healthcare for all, including undocumented immigrants, and that essential to a strong single payer system is a vibrant public health system including our public hospitals, mental health services, and clinics, and a workforce that is protected and afforded opportunities throughout the transition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party will transmit this resolution to the California Democratic Party, Democrats in the California Congressional delegation, and to all Democratic members of the California legislature.

Authors: Alysabeth Alexander, AD17; Peter Gallotta, AD17; Khin Khin Gyi, AD54; Andrew S. Becker, AD7; Derek Casady, AD78; Nancy Casady, AD78

Sponsors: CDP Regions 3, 15 and 17, Democratic Party of Sacramento County; Andres Ramos, AD9; La Jolla Democratic Club; CNA delegation

Adopted by the California Democratic Party
At its 2017 Statewide Convention
Sacramento Convention Center