

June 17, 2022

California State Legislature
1315 10th St
Sacramento, CA 94249



Re: Support: Gun Safety Legislation

Dear Legislators,

John Baackes
Chief Executive Officer

L.A. Care Health Plan – the nation’s largest public plan with more than 2.6 million Medi-Cal, Cal MediConnect (Dual Eligibles), PASC- SEIU Homecare Workers, and Covered California enrollees – writes in support of much-needed gun safety legislation that promotes common sense gun measures and increased access to mental health services.

L.A. Care joins millions of people around the country in asking a simple question: When are we going to do something about gun violence in the United States? On June 2, 2022, L.A. Care Health Plan’s Board of Governors unanimously approved a resolution on gun safety legislation. In the wake of horrific mass shootings recently in Buffalo, Laguna Woods, Uvalde, and Tulsa, the health plan felt a responsibility to take a community leadership role in advocating for responsible gun safety laws and expanded resources for mental health.

California has led the way in enacting strong firearm laws, including a ban on assault weapons, universal background checks, red flag reporting requirements, and mental health reporting. L.A. Care thanks the Legislature and the Administration for continuing to work together to enact additional laws that would curb gun violence and increase the health and well-being in our communities throughout California. While much more needs to be done even in our own state, California can serve as an example for our elected officials in Congress who need to do something now to protect our citizens.

L.A. Care strongly advocates and supports efforts for more effective state gun safety legislation to protect the lives of Californians and all Americans – this legislative package is a strong step towards a safer and healthier California.

AB 2156: Expands the prohibitions on the manufacture of firearms without a state license, including reducing the number of guns a person may manufacture without a license and prohibiting the use of a three-dimensional printer to manufacture any firearm without a license.

AB 2239: Creates a ten-year prohibition on the possession of firearms for individuals convicted of child abuse and elder abuse.

AB 1929: Requires DHCS to establish a community violence prevention and recovery program, under which violence preventive services would be provided by qualified violence prevention professionals as a covered benefit under the Medi-Cal program. The bill requires that services be available to a Medi-Cal beneficiary who has been violently injured as a result of community violence, for whom a provider has determined that the beneficiary is at significant risk of experiencing violent injury as a result of community violence, or has experienced chronic exposure to community violence.



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AB 1621: Revises various definitions relating to firearm precursor parts and unserialized firearms and establish various restrictions on the possession, sale, transfer, manufacture and assembly of unserialized firearms and firearm precursor parts, subject to exceptions.

SB 1384: Requires licensed firearm dealers to install specified security measures in gun stores, carry general liability insurance policies, and have employees attend training courses designed by the DOJ.

SB 1327: Establishes privately-enforced civil causes of action against persons who manufacture or cause to be manufactured, distribute, transport, or import into the state, or cause to be distributed or transported or imported into the state, keep for sale or offer or expose for sale, or give or lend certain firearms.

SB 906: Requires specified school personnel to report to law enforcement threats or perceived threats of potential homicidal acts by students, describes law enforcement's required response to such threats, and requires the Department of Education to formulate best practices to prevent homicidal acts at schools.

L.A. Care recognizes that gun violence is a public health crisis that must be addressed through a comprehensive approach that addresses both gun sales and access to mental health treatment. We are committed to health equity, ensuring that everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible. To that end, we support comprehensive, responsible gun safety legislation to protect the lives of our members and community.

Sincerely,



Chief Executive Officer



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