



Peace and Freedom Party of California

Legislative Committee

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May 1, 2023

Honorable Scott D. Wiener
1021 O Street, Suite 8620
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 770 (Wiener and McGuire) Unified Health Care financing SUPPORT

Dear Senator Wiener:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Peace and Freedom Party of California in support of SB 770.

This bill requires the Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency to seek discussions of a waiver for a unified health care financing system with the federal government, requires the secretary to set up a Waiver Development Workgroup, and further requires the secretary to make quarterly reports on the status and outcomes of the discussions with the federal government and progress of the workgroup. The secretary is also required to submit recommendations for the elements to be included in the final application for the waiver.

While we do not understand why discussions with the federal government, which have already started, need to be codified, we do hope they speed up the total process rather than stall it. Another concern is the language dealing with the requirement for submitting reports from the secretary which are "inoperative on January 1, 2028" and "inoperative on June 1, 2028" rather than earlier dates which are permitted by Government Code section 10231.5. However, our main concern with the bill is the unified health care financing system itself, where a single-payer system is only one of several financing options. And while you are following the direction of the Healthy California for All Commission, we think that single payer should be the only option.

Since the mid-1980s, the Peace and Freedom Party has supported a high-quality, universal, comprehensive, single payer health care system with no co-pays and no deductibles. We still do.

Despite our concerns, with the author's assurances that this bill will neither delay nor interfere with the passage of a single-payer health care system in California, the Peace and Freedom Party supports SB 770. For more information, please contact me at CTWeberVoters@att.net.

Sincerely,

C. T. Weber

C. T. Weber
Legislative Liaison
Peace and Freedom Party of California