

Myth: Prop 35 will lead to increased taxes for Californians.

**FACT:** Prop 35 does not involve **any** new taxes or tax increases for Californians. Prop 35 extends an **existing** levy on health insurance companies that will otherwise expire in 2026. This levy has been in place for decades, with funds dedicated to protecting and expanding access to health care. And, Prop 35 prevents the state from redirecting these funds for non-health care purposes.

**Myth:** Prop 35 is unnecessary – California already has dedicated resource streams for Medi-Cal.

**FACT:** Over the last 15 years, California has redirected more than \$30 billion of these funds for other purposes. This has exacerbated California's health care crisis. Prop 35 secures dedicated, ongoing funding to protect and expand patient access to care – and ensures these funds cannot be redirected for other purposes. Without Prop 35, funding for health care services will continue to be subjected to the volatility of the state budget process, and we could lose vital funding, further reducing everyone's access to quality, timely, and affordable health care.

## **Myth:** There are no guarantees Prop 35 will invest in patient care.

**FACT:** Prop 35 has strong accountability requirements to ensure funds are spent on patient care. It caps administrative expenses at 1% and requires 99% of revenues to go to patient care. The measure also requires ongoing independent financial audits and public reporting to ensure funds are spent effectively and as intended. And it prevents the state from redirecting these funds. Prop 35 specifically directs resources to improve patient care, including:

- Expanded access to preventative health care
- Reducing wait times in emergency rooms
- Primary care
- Community health centers
- Specialty care like cancer, cardiology, and OB/GYN
- + Family planning

- Hiring more first responders and paramedics to reduce emergency response times
- + Expanded mental health treatment
- Expanded services and access to health care for Medi-Cal patients
- Health care workforce training to address worker shortage

## Myth: Prop 35 narrowly sends funds to only certain factions of our health care system.

**FACT:** Prop 35 dedicates funds to a broad range of health care services that benefit all Californians, and especially the 15 million patients on Medi-Cal. Prop 35 protects and expands patient access to care at community health clinics, hospitals, emergency rooms, primary care, family planning, mental health, and specialty care providers. It will help ensure quality, timely, and affordable health care for all Californians, which is why the measure has broad bipartisan support from a growing coalition of social justice organizations, health care workers, first responders, health care workers, physicians, dentists, hospitals, Planned Parenthood, and community health centers.

## **Myth:** Prop 35 lacks flexibility to focus resources where they're needed most.

**FACT:** Prop 35 was written to support a broad range of health care services and to address our most urgent health care priorities. It provides funding to protect and expand patient access to care at community health clinics, hospitals, emergency rooms, primary care, family planning, mental health providers, OB/GYNs and with specialty care providers like cancer and cardiology.

**Myth:** Prop 35 will make our state budget crisis worse and take funding away from other general fund priorities.

**FACT:** Prop 35 protects health care funding from the ongoing volatility of the state budget process and provides much needed stability for patient access to care, especially for Medi-Cal patients. The state has redirected more than \$30 billion in these funds over the past 15 years, making our health care crisis worse. Importantly, Prop 35 does provide flexibility for state lawmakers and includes billions in funding that can be spent on state priorities.

## **Myth:** Prop 35 will lead to job losses in the health care industry.

**FACT:** Prop 35 provides dedicated funds to health care workforce training and education to address the worker shortage. What's more by providing increased funding for health care services, more professionals and workers will be needed. That's why health care workers and worker unions support Prop 35.

**Myth:** Voting yes on Prop 35 will give the government too much power over health care decisions.

**FACT:** Prop 35 prevents the state from redirecting health care funds for non-health care purposes. It guarantees billions in health care dollars are spent as intended on treating patients, capping administrative costs at 1%, and ensuring the remaining 99% is spent directly on expanding access to health care. Lastly, the measure requires ongoing independent financial audits to ensure funds are spent effectively and as intended.

Prop 35 has received <u>bipartisan support</u> from a growing coalition of social justice organizations, nurses, health care workers, first responders, labor unions, physicians, dentists, hospitals, Planned Parenthood, and community health centers because it will improve access to health care for **ALL** California patients.



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