

Health Care Policy –  
DRAFT Agenda 2010  
A better L.A. is our business

## Health Care

### Advocate for health care reform and businessfriendly health care policies

Rising health care costs continue to place significant financial burdens on employers and employees. The Chamber supports health care reform efforts that promote shared responsibility for health care financing, expand access to coverage, increase cost transparency and reduce the overall financial burden on employers.

### Support local hospital modernization projects

With 10 hospital closures since 2004, our community lacks adequate patient bed capacity to meet the demands of a growing population. The Chamber supports hospital modernization efforts that increase capacity, patient access and quality of care. This includes fast-tracking project approvals and opposing frivolous efforts to delay these vital improvements to our regional hospital network.

### Reopen Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Center

The 2005 closure of King-Harbor Hospital in South Los Angeles impacts health access in South Los Angeles and is contributing to hospital overcrowding throughout the county. The Chamber is partnering with stakeholders and the community to push for the reopening of the hospital under a reformed management structure as soon as possible..

### Increase nursing and other health professional workforce opportunities

Estimates are that Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura counties will need 116,000 new nurses by 2030. The committee will work with public and private stakeholders to increase the number of health professional career opportunities for young people and create incentives for those professionals to remain in Southern California.

### Expand local community clinic capacity

Community-based clinics help reduce the burden on large hospitals by providing basic care, preventative services, immunizations and routine diagnosis.

In the past 10 years, two-thirds of the county-run clinics have closed in L.A. County due to lack of funding. The Chamber supports expanding public and private financing to help increase access and quality of care.

### Foster collaboration to improve quality health care

Problems facing our region's health care system require collaboration between providers, insurers, educators, non-profit organizations, business, government, labor and consumers.

Without an open dialogue and willingness to confront these important issues, the crisis will worsen. The committee will partner with organizations dedicated to improving the quality of health care. By working together to find common ground, we can make the L.A. area a better place for all of us to live and work.

Chair

**Jeff Shapiro**

Vice President  
Employee Benefits  
The Walt Disney Company  
Co-chair

**Gail Margolis**

Vice President for  
Government, Business  
and Community  
Relations  
Childrens Hospital  
Los Angeles

The Health Care Committee is a leader in providing the business perspective on key health care reform issues. The committee supports reform efforts that promote shared responsibility for health care financing, expand access to coverage and quality care and create health professional workforce opportunities.

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