



Los Angeles Area
Chamber of Commerce

L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce Statement of Reform on Martin Luther King Jr. - Harbor Hospital

Los Angeles County is the epicenter of the nation's health care crisis. The high numbers of uninsured residents together with severe budget restraints, community clinic service reductions and numerous hospital closures force remaining hospitals to absorb unsustainable costs. This threatens the viability of remaining hospitals and endangers the health of our entire region. An adequate health care infrastructure is vital to the economic health of a community.

The business community must be a leader in fight to fix our broken system and rebuild our decimated health care safety net.

The L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce will advocate for the following items in order re-open Martin Luther King Jr. - Harbor Hospital as a first step towards achieving a stronger region-wide health care network.

1. Urge the county to re-open MLK/Harbor Hospital under an independent operator.
2. Ensure that the hospital operator has the capacity to provide for patients through community based primary care physicians.
3. Encourage support by community based clinics.
4. Urge the county to provide necessary resources and proper funding for MLK-Harbor to operate as a safety net provider.
5. Guarantee that all city and county hospitals are afforded the same resources
6. Work at the State and Federal levels to secure additional funding for MLK-Harbor.
7. Resolve the statewide disparity between Northern and Southern California Medical reimbursement rates.
8. Explore potential for economic growth through:
 - Business ventures with Chamber members
 - Development of socioeconomic infrastructure
 - Attraction of grocers to the area