

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT AB 731

Business Leaders Across California Agree: AB 731 is a Solution in Search of a Problem; Will Only Add Delays, Costs, and Unnecessary Bureaucracy

**SAN FRANCISCO
BUSINESS TIMES**

GUEST COMMENTARY:

*Proposed law threatens
affordable health care*

~ Jim Wunderman, President and CEO, Bay Area Council

“Unnecessary bureaucracy is not cheap, and it often comes at a cost to consumers. The agency assigned to review large group rates, the DMHC, is funded entirely by health plans. When the DMHC is forced to inflate its budget in order to undertake the

additional review AB 731 would require, health plans will have to pass these new costs onto consumers through higher premiums.

...As the cost of living – and the cost of health care – continues to rise, legislators should be examining ways

to make healthcare more affordable, rather than creating more obstacles and costs. Bay Area businesses can't afford AB 731 or other legislation that drives up the cost to administer healthcare.”

The Fresno Bee

OPINION:

*New bill puts Fresno companies at risk of losing
access to affordable health care*

~ Nathan Ahle, President and CEO, Fresno Chamber of Commerce

“Fair and reliable premiums are supported by already transparent and publicly available information regarding large group rates, as California law requires health plans to report and make this information available

to the public. AB 731 is redundant and unnecessary. Imposing a financial burden on consumers without benefit is counter to the fight for affordable health care.

Fresno businesses take seriously

the care and success of our community. We cannot expect dedication from our employees and a better future for our neighbors if we cannot guarantee them reliable, affordable health care through their employers.”



PASADENA
Independent

OPINION:

Bureaucracy Will Not Make Health Care More Affordable

~ William R. Manis, President, and CEO, San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership

“Rising health care costs are a critical issue for all Californians. The cost of health care already consumes a significant portion of the state budget and is often a pricey budget item for cities, counties, school districts, and many other government agencies

as well as for businesses, families, and individuals. To make health care more affordable for public agencies and private businesses, policymakers should be extremely hesitant to add any new cost or expensive regulatory hurdle on health care plans, as these

costs are inevitably passed on to consumers, who end up paying more and more for health care.

This is the problem with Assembly Bill 731 by Assemblymember Ash Kalra, a bill which raises health care costs across the state.”

THE ORANGE COUNTY **REGISTER**

OPINION:

AB 731 proposes added health care costs and unnecessary bureaucracy for consumers

~ Alicia Berhow, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Orange County Business Council

“Disguised as a transparency bill, AB 731 is the solution to an imaginary problem. A 2015 CA law, SB 546 already requires health plans to report

and make public, large group rate information. Why are lawmakers trying to create another layer of bureaucracy that does essentially the same thing?

...AB 731 will provide no benefit to consumers, and will only add more bureaucracy, delays, and health care costs for Californians.”