

**STOP**

**DANGEROUS  
+ COSTLY**

**Dialysis Proposition**

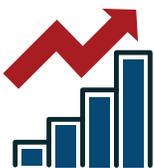
# Stop Yet Another Dangerous & Costly Dialysis Proposition

SEIU-UHW has a long history of abusing the ballot initiative process and putting patients at risk. Despite overwhelmingly being rejected by voters in the last two election cycles, they're back a third time with yet another dangerous and costly dialysis proposition. The new proposition is nearly identical to Proposition 23, which 63% of voters overwhelmingly rejected in 2020. This latest proposition will again jeopardize access to care, worsen our health care provider shortage and increase health care costs for all Californians. Here's why a broad coalition opposes the latest Proposition.



## Puts Dialysis Patient Lives at Risk

- Approximately 80,000 Californians need dialysis treatments three days a week to stay alive. Dialysis does the job of failed kidneys, removing toxins from the body. Dialysis is not optional. Missing even a single treatment increases a patient's risk of death by 30%.
- The proposition mandates that every dialysis clinic in California have a physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant in every clinic during all operating hours. These new positions would have no role in patient care and would likely end up with administrative duties only.
- A study by the Berkeley Research Group (BRG) found the measure would increase dialysis clinic costs by up to \$445 million annually or between \$376,000 and \$731,000 per clinic, per year.
- **Nearly half of all of California's 600 dialysis clinics could be forced to cut back services or close** –making it more difficult for dialysis patients to access their life-saving treatments and putting patient lives at risk.



## Increases Health Care Cost for Taxpayers and Consumers

- The BRG analysis also found this measure would increase costs to the State of California by hundreds of millions of dollars annually for the treatment of patients on state-funded health care programs.
- That will increase costs for all of us in the form of higher insurance premiums and higher taxes for government-sponsored health care.



## Worsens Emergency Room Overcrowding and the Health Care Provider Shortage

- Amid health care practitioner shortages, this measure would move thousands of doctors, nurses, and physician assistants away from patients that need care into administrative roles at dialysis clinics where they will not be providing care.
- If clinics shut down, dialysis patients who miss treatment will get very ill and wind up in the emergency room. Forcing tens of thousands of vulnerable dialysis patients into emergency rooms will exacerbate overcrowding and reduce capacity to deal with other health emergencies and pandemics like the coronavirus.
- The pandemic has already put a significant strain on our health care system, and the last thing we need is to make the provider shortage worse.



## A Long Line of Ballot Abuse by SEIU-UHW

- Since 2012, UHW has wasted \$82 million of its members' dues money funding 60 failed ballot initiatives across the country – many of which put patients and their members at risk.
- **That amounts to more than \$700 per UHW member that they've wasted on these failed and reckless efforts.**
- This is the third ballot measure since 2018 sponsored by UHW targeting dialysis providers. Voters rejected Prop 8 in 2018 by 60% and Prop 23 in 2020 by 63%.
- It's shameful that this union would continue to use vulnerable patients as pawns to advance their political agenda.

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