

# CHA Media Statement

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 10, 2019

## Governor Newsom's Proposed 2019-2020 Budget Makes Critical Investments in California's Health

*By Carmela Coyle  
President & CEO  
California Hospital Association*

Governor Gavin Newsom's proposed 2019-2020 budget, which calls for critical and timely investments to address many of California's long-standing health issues, is one that should be supported by all who care about the health of Californians.

Among the key proposals:

**Mental Health Leadership Position** — Support for a statewide mental health leadership position that can bring to bear a breadth of resources and focus on a long-standing and pervasive health concern. In addition, the governor will appoint a new Brain Health Task Force.

**Behavioral Health** — \$100 million in additional resources for workforce training, the Whole Person Care Pilot Program that focuses on integrating mental and physical health, and increases in supportive and affordable housing.

**Expanded Coverage** — \$260 million to expand Medi-Cal coverage to young adults through age 25, regardless of immigration status.

**Medi-Cal Reimbursement** — \$3.2 billion, an increase of \$900 million from last year, from tobacco tax revenues to increase payments to doctors and other clinicians who care for Medi-Cal patients, as well as investments in programs to improve health outcomes and reduce costs.

The budget also supports two critical changes — requiring an individual mandate and expanding premium subsidy eligibility — so more Californians are covered.

####

**CONTACT:** Jan Emerson-Shea  
(916) 552-7616 (office)  
(916) 804-0663 (cell)