

## Universal health care mandate fails to win Assembly approval

Legislation to place on the ballot the issue of whether affordable access to health care should be a right of all Californians has been defeated on the Assembly floor by a 43-32 vote.

Although ACA 60 (Hauser) probably will not be considered again in this legislative session, the issue will continue as a top priority item until a means is found to provide coverage for the 22 percent of Californians who are uninsured.

### Uninsured population

This population represents approximately 5 million citizens and another 2 million to 3 million illegal aliens. More than 52 percent of them are working, with 40 percent working full-time all year. Many are self-employed.

Forty-four percent earn less than 1.4 times the federal poverty level; 25 percent had incomes three times or greater than the federal poverty level.

As long as these people stay healthy, they are productive, taxpaying citizens. When they incur catastrophic medical costs due to illness or injury, they become medically indigent and the cost of the care is picked up by the state through Medi-Cal or the counties' medically indigent programs.

### ACA 60

ACA 60 sought to ensure universal health coverage by having the electorate require the Legislature to enact legislation within two years of the effective date of the amendment to institute a program that provides

affordable access to health care for all California residents. What services would be covered, what restrictions can and cannot be used in designing the plan, and suggested ways to fund the program (including increased taxes on income, payroll, alcohol, tobacco, sales, severance and services) were all spelled out in the proposal. Appropriations made under this proposal would have been exempt from the Gann spending limit.

### Chamber position

The California Chamber opposed ACA 60 for the following reasons:

- The proposed plan would have been prohibitively expensive. ACA 60 mandated coverage for many services that are not covered under current group
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## Mission to Australia

### Chamber leaders focus on trade/investment, world expo

An 18-member delegation led by California Chamber Chairman Howard P. Marguleas and President Kirk West explored trade and investment opportunities and other related issues in a five-day visit to Australia.

The mission coincided with Governor George Deukmejian's visit to Australia and included a visit to the World Expo '88 in Brisbane, as well as international trade and investment meetings in Brisbane and Sydney.

### Sydney

In Sydney, the California Chamber delegation was in attendance during the Governor's major address to the American Chamber of Commerce, a

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*California Day.* In attendance at the California Chamber-hosted reception and dinner in recognition of California Day at the World Expo '88 in Brisbane were (from left) Chamber President Howard Marguleas; Ardith Marguleas; Gloria Deukmejian; California Governor George Deukmejian; Queensland Premier Michael Ahern; Jean Lane; U.S. Ambassador to Australia Laurence Wm. Lane, Jr.



## Chamber leaders focus on trade/investment, world expo

**Leadership mission.** A California Chamber leadership mission to Australia in July provided mission delegates with numerous opportunities to learn more about the United States' longtime trading partner. On the delegation were: (front row, from left) James C. Hankla, Long Beach city manager; Max Factor, immediate past president, Beverly Hills Chamber; Betty Neuhart, regional director/Pacific, U.S. Department of Commerce; David Hauser, immediate past president, Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners; Stanley Wainer, chairman, Wyle Laboratories, and second vice chairman/treasurer, California Chamber Board; Jane Arnault, Ph.D., president, JurEcon Inc., and member, California Chamber Board; Genevieve Ryan, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, U.S. Department of Commerce; (second row, from left) Bert Englehardt, commercial consul, American Consulate General in Sydney; Susanne Stirling, director of international trade, California Chamber; Robert T. Monagan, president, California Economic Development Corporation, and chairman, California State World Trade Commission; Robert C. Abrams, president, Western Region, Contel, and member, California Chamber Board; Roger Baccigaluppi, president and chief executive officer, Blue Diamond Growers; George F. Talin Sr., president, Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners; Joseph Prevratil, executive director, Port of Long Beach, and chairman of the board, Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce; (back row, from left) Richard Aschieris, director of affairs, Port of Long Beach; Peter Scott, chairman of the board, chief executive officer and president, DiGiorgio Corporation, and first vice chairman, California Chamber; Kirk West, president, California Chamber; Howard P. Marguleas, chairman, California Chamber, and chairman and chief executive officer, Sun World International, Inc.; John Geoghegan, secretary of the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency; Jack Parnell, director of the California Department of Food and Agriculture.



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private non-profit organization founded in 1961 by Australian and American businesses.

The Governor emphasized the many ties between California and Australia, including a trade relationship that dates back to the 1800s. "As America's leadership state," he said, "California extends the hand of friendship to Australia and the hope that we will work together for a bountiful harvest of trade, peace, prosperity and equality in the age of the Pacific."

The California Chamber's agenda in Sydney also included: a meeting with Minister G.B. Peacocke, business affairs, Government of New South Wales, to discuss trade and investment between California and New South Wales; a briefing on the Australian economy from the Bank of America Australia Limited; a meeting with the Royal Agricultural Society to discuss U.S. participation in the 169-year-old Annual Royal Easter Show to be held March 17-28, 1989; and a discussion of California's business

presence in Sydney with officials of the U.S. Consulate General.

### Brisbane

While in Brisbane, the California Chamber delegation met with counterparts at the Queensland State Chamber of Commerce and Industry to discuss the "U.S.-Queensland connection," an effort aimed at strengthening commercial ties. California Chamber delegates also discussed business opportunities in the Brisbane area with that city's Office of Economic Development and met with the Australian-American Association, an organization whose involvement in commercial, political and social activities dates back to World War II.

### California Day

To recognize California Day at the World Expo '88, the California Chamber hosted a reception and dinner on July 27 in Brisbane following a full day of activities on the Expo site.

More than 250 Australian and U.S.

business and government leaders attended the evening event, which was sponsored by Bank of America Australia Limited, Blue Diamond Growers and the Port of Long Beach, and co-sponsored by Contel and Wyle Laboratories.

Honored guests included: Governor George Deukmejian; Gloria Deukmejian; the Governor of Queensland, Sir Walter and Lady Campbell; Ambassador Laurence Wm. Lane Jr., U.S. Embassy; Jean Lane; John T. Hay, California commissioner for Expo '88; and Mable Hay.

### Expo theme

Expo '88 opened April 30 and will close October 30. The theme is "Leisure in the Age of Technology." The U.S. exhibit centers on "Sport and its Science." The U.S. pavilion incorporates several states, including California, which used the "California Sports Connection" as its theme, employing the latest technology to encourage visitors to tour recreation and

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## Chamber leaders focus on trade/investment, world expo



*California Day activities.* California Governor George Deukmejian officially opened "California Day" at the World Expo '88 in Brisbane. Serving as California Expo commissioner is former California Chamber President John T. Hay (left). In attendance were Chamber Board Member Robert C. Abrams (above), president, Western Region, Contel, and the rest of the Chamber's delegation to Australia, as well as California Senator Newton Russell (center). Other state senators at the California Day ceremonies included Ruben Ayala, Jim Ellis and Milton Marks. The "California Raisins" danced into the hearts of all who attended.



*U.S.-Queensland Connection.* At the Queensland State Chamber of Commerce and Industry business luncheon are (from left): Peter Roubicek, executive director, Queensland State Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Howard Marguleas, chairman, California Chamber; Ian Hiley, president, Queensland State Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Peter Wall, chief manager, Central City Region, National Australia Bank; Kirk West, President, California Chamber.





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**Sydney gathering.** Attendees at a reception hosted by Minister Peacocke, Ministry of Business and Consumer Affairs, New South Wales Government, included: *Top left:* Robert Monagan, president, California Economic Development Corporation/chairman, California State World Trade Commission; Stanley Wainer, chairman, Wyle Laboratories, and second vice chairman/treasurer, California Chamber Board; U.S. Ambassador to Australia Laurence Wm. Lane, Jr.; Kirk West, president, California Chamber; and Joseph Prevratil, executive director, Port of Long Beach/chairman of the board, Long Beach American Chamber of Commerce. *Top right:* California Chamber Chairman Howard Marguleas; Inge Miscoll; James Miscoll, executive vice president, Bank of America/member, California Chamber Board; John Geoghegan, California secretary of business, transportation and housing. *Bottom right:* Roger Baccigaluppi, president and chief executive officer, Blue Diamond Growers; James Vaughn, director of the California State Asian Trade and Investment Office; Jack Parnell, director of the California Department of Food and Agriculture; and Ron Baker, director, New South Wales Business and Consumer Affairs. *Bottom left:* Peter Scott (right), chairman of the board, chief executive officer and president, DiGiorgio Corporation/first vice chairman, California Chamber, with an Australian businessman.



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sporting destinations in California.

### U.S.-Australia trade

The United States furnishes about 22 percent of Australia's imports while taking about 11 percent of Australia's total exports. The United States has enjoyed a trade surplus with Australia since 1952.

In 1987, the United States exported US\$5.5 billion to Australia while importing US\$3.3 billion. The United States is Australia's second ranked supplier after Japan, but could gain first rank in 1988 as a result of currency effects and higher aircraft and computer sales.

Australia's exports to the United States are dominated by raw materials, including petroleum, meat, seafood, sugar and minerals (particularly alumina). Australia imports from the United States mainly manufactured goods, such as defense equipment, machinery, electronics, aircraft and

parts, and chemicals.

California's major exports to Australia are office and automatic data processing machines, aircraft, scientific and controlling instruments, machinery, semiconductor devices and pharmaceuticals. Australia's major exports to California are meat products, crude petroleum products, fish and seafood products, iron and steel, and processed metal products.

### Foreign investment

Foreign investment, originally British, has been a key factor in the development of Australia. American companies have been investing in Australia since the last century, but began growing only after World War II. Strong import controls in effect up to 1960 originally influenced U.S. companies to produce in Australia.

Foreign investment proposals approved by the Australian government in 1986-87 totalled A\$18.5 billion, nearly double the previous year's level. Of the total, 89 percent was attributed to

takeovers and acquisitions, and the remainder to new businesses. The United States was the biggest investor, accounting for A\$3.6 billion, almost 20 percent of the total.

More than 800 U.S. companies have established themselves in Australia, operating through subsidiaries, branches or other types of affiliates and investing more than US\$10 billion as well as employing 300,000 people. About 300 U.S. firms have their Pacific headquarters in Australia.

From 1980 to 1986 direct investment by Australian companies in the United States grew at 55.8 percent per annum. From 1980 to 1987 Australian companies invested more than US\$16 billion in the United States. Australia was the fifth largest investor in the United States in 1986 and the fourth in 1987. □ Staff contact: Susanne Stirling