

ALERT

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CalChamber Network Says ‘No’ to Health Care Tax

Employers, business owners and individuals throughout the state are voicing their **opposition** to **AB 8 (Núñez; D-Los Angeles)**, which imposes a tax on employers who can’t afford to provide health care coverage to fund health care coverage for those who don’t currently purchase it.

Local chambers of commerce statewide have helped direct concerned employers to the CalChamber grassroots system, generating more than 9,000 letters to elected officials through www.calchambervotes.com.

The bill will be considered next by the



Senate Appropriations Committee.

The California Chamber of Commerce-opposed “job killer” bill sets up a government-run health care system for employees who don’t receive health care from their employers, financed almost exclusively by a payroll tax on all employers who don’t spend a certain level of funding on employee health care.

In addition, the bill grants an unelected government bureaucracy—the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB), unpaid appointees of the Gov-
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CalChamber Calls for More Flexible Meal/Rest Period Rules



The state’s current meal and rest period rules are inflexible, the California Chamber of Commerce told the new state labor commissioner this month.

CalChamber policy advocate Marti Fisher highlighted employer concerns at public forums set up by Labor Commissioner Angela Bradstreet and the state Department of Industrial Relations in Sacramento on August 2 and in Northridge on August 9.

The lack of clarity and inflexibility in the meal and rest period rules has resulted in confusion among businesses and left employers open to lawsuits if employees are even a few minutes late in taking meal or rest breaks, Fisher said.

Rules Too Rigid

“The current meal and rest period rules are too rigid and do not reflect the workplace today,” Fisher explained to the labor commissioner. “The workplace is constantly changing and the laws need to be flexible enough to accommodate circumstances where it is not feasible or safe for an employee to take an off-duty break. Employers are getting sued because the law is unclear and does not address the need for more employee flexibility.”

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CalChamber Welcomes Sonora Governor



The Honorable Eduardo Bours Castelo, Governor of Sonora, Mexico, chats with CalChamber President Allan Zaremborg following the Governor’s talk on the benefits of investing in Sonora at the August 16 CalChamber International Luncheon Forum. More information at www.calchamber.com.

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