

**California's Major Newspapers Agree:  
Ease California's doctor shortage by supporting  
Senator Hernandez's access to care package (SBs 491-492-493)**

**San Jose Mercury News**

**EDITORIAL: Curing California's acute doctor shortage, April 12, 2013**

“California doesn't have enough primary care physicians. Forty-two of its 58 counties fall short of the federal government's most basic standard. The state needs another 2,000 doctors, and the situation will get dramatically worse next year – even in Silicon Valley – when between 2-4 million Californians obtain health insurance under Obamacare and go looking for a doctor... California has to make more efficient use of its medical professionals to serve newly-insured patients. Instead of fighting Hernandez's bills, doctors should work with him to build in safeguards.”

**Los Angeles Times**

**EDITORIAL: An Rx for the doctor shortage, April 21, 2013**

“Nurse practitioners, optometrists and pharmacists may not spend as much time with patients in the course of their training as would-be doctors do, but all have graduate degrees, and all receive much of the same basic instruction in science, physiology and medicine as doctors... The quickest way to improve the situation is to let medical professionals do more of what they can do, and already are doing in many other states. It would also help keep the cost of treatment from climbing out of more Californians' reach, regardless of how many doctors are nearby, without reducing the quality of their care.”

**The Sacramento Bee**

**EDITORIAL: Chance to take helpful steps on primary care, April 22, 2013**

“...doesn't have to mean reducing standards or ‘dumbing down’ medicine. It doesn't have to mean increased fragmentation or lack of coordinated care. It means making better use of the training of the medical professionals we have, while boosting training to meet the demands of the future.”

**The Bakersfield Californian**

**EDITORIAL: State's doctor shortage needs emergency step, April 16, 2013**

“Hernandez, who is the chairman of the state Senate Health Committee, has proposed legislation that would allow many of those with licensed medical expertise to treat patients more directly, though only in their areas of specialty. The shortage is especially grievous in the Central Valley and Kern County in particular. California needs to take this step – quickly.”