



# CALIFORNIA *Fair* ELECTIONS CAMPAIGN



## Proposition 15 Means Better Health Care

Proposition 15, the California Fair Elections Act, represents fundamental election reform that will allow candidates and elected officials to get out of the fundraising game and get back to solving California's problems. It will create a pilot project to make available voluntary public financing for qualified candidates running for Secretary of State in 2014 and 2018, and is paid for primarily by registration fees on lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers.

### The Big Money Problem: Special Interests in Control

- **Drug companies, the insurance industry, HMOs, hospitals, and nursing homes** have contributed over \$280 million to candidates and initiatives in California since 2000, distorting public policy to their gain and to the detriment of patients.
- **The consequence?** High prescription drug prices, nearly 7 million uninsured Californians, overwhelmed emergency rooms, and inadequate funding for health care.

*"Insurance grants' enormous campaign spending gives them a disproportionate influence in Sacramento – at the expense of patients and the public.*

*"Nurses increasingly feel we cannot take care of our patients the way they deserve without curbing the influence of the big money donors."*

– Deborah Burger, RN, Co-President, California Nurses Association

### The Fair Elections Solution: Public Financing of Campaigns

- **With Fair Elections, candidates don't have to reply on** huge private contributions from Big Pharma, HMOs, and other groups in order to get elected. As a result, our elected officials will be accountable only to the voters, not big money campaign contributors whose priority is not the public interest. .

### The Proven Results: Better Health Care Access and Affordability in Fair Elections States

- **Prescription Drug Benefits for Arizonans:** On the very first day she took office, Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano — the country's first Fair Elections governor — fulfilled a campaign promise and signed an executive order creating a discount prescription drug program.
- **Prescription Drug Price Controls in Maine:** Maine's fairly-elected legislature passed a law that enables families to purchase prescriptions drugs on the Medicaid list for the Medicaid price, saving as much as 60% off market prices.
- **Universal Health Care Progress In Connecticut:** Connecticut's legislators — 80% of whom were elected with Fair Elections — passed two bills to establish universal health care. Disappointing many, both bills were vetoed by Connecticut's governor, who was elected before the state implemented Fair Elections and who received more than \$300,000 from insurance and health industry campaign contributors. Connecticut's next Governor's race will be conducted under a Fair Elections system.

**Say "Yes" to Better Health Care! Help pass Proposition 15.**

[www.YesOnProp15.org](http://www.YesOnProp15.org)

Yes on Proposition 15: Californians for Fair Elections, a coalition of nurses and government reform advocates.  
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