



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 1/8/2018

Agenda Placement: 5A

## Napa County Legislative Subcommittee Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Napa County Legislative Subcommittee  
**FROM:** Molly Rattigan for Minh Tran - County Executive Officer  
County Executive Office  
**REPORT BY:** Michael Karath, Staff Assistant - BOS - 299-1477  
**SUBJECT:** S. 1804 (Sanders) - Medicare-For-All National Health Insurance

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Van Scoyoc Associates to provide a report on S. 1804 (Sanders, I-VT), a bill that expand the federal Medicare health insurance program to all Americans.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) introduced S. 1804 on September 13, 2017, a bill that seeks to expand the federal Medicare health insurance program to create a national health insurance program for all Americans.

Senator Sanders offers a number of options to pay for the program (full document is attached to this Board letter):

- | 7.5 percent income-based premium paid by employers-Revenue raised: \$3.9 trillion over ten years.
- | 4 percent income-based premium paid by households-Revenue raised: \$3.5 trillion over ten years.
- | Savings from Health Tax Expenditures-Revenue raised: \$4.2 trillion over ten years.
- | Make the Personal Income Tax More Progressive-Revenue raised: \$1.8 trillion over ten years.
- | Make the Estate Tax More Progressive-Revenue raised: \$249 billion over ten years.
- | Establish a Wealth Tax on the Top 0.1 percent-Revenue raised: \$1.3 trillion over ten years.
- | Close the Gingrich-Edwards Loophole and Create Parity for Wealthy Business Owners-Revenue raised: \$247 billion over ten years.
- | Impose a one-time tax on currently held offshore profits-Revenue raised: \$767 billion over ten years.
- | Impose a Fee on Large Financial Institutions-Revenue raised: \$117 billion over ten years.
- | Repeal Corporate Accounting Gimmicks-Revenue raised: \$112 billion ten years.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?                      No

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

**BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) introduced S. 1804 on September 13, 2017, a bill that seeks to expand the federal Medicare health insurance program to create a national health insurance program for all Americans.

According to Senator Sanders, U.S. health care spending accounts for nearly 18 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and will increase to 20 percent of GDP over the next decade. Senator Sanders sees the most cost-effective and popular solution to this health care crisis is to guarantee health care as a right through a Medicare-for-all single-payer health care system. Today, Senator Sanders says, the traditional Medicare program only spends two percent of its costs on administration. That's less than one-sixth the administrative costs of private health insurance companies. He states that studies have found that our federal government could save up to \$500 billion per year on administrative costs by moving to a Medicare for All, single-payer health care system.

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S. 1804 currently has 16 co-sponsors, including U.S. Senator Kamala Harris (D-CA). U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) is not a co-sponsor.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- A . S. 1804 - Medicare-For-All National Health Care - Bill Text
- B . S. 1804 - Senator Sanders - Options To Finance Medicare For All

Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Molly Rattigan