



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 16, 2012

The Honorable Darrell Steinberg
President pro Tempore
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable John A. Pérez
Speaker
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear President pro Tempore Steinberg & Speaker Pérez,

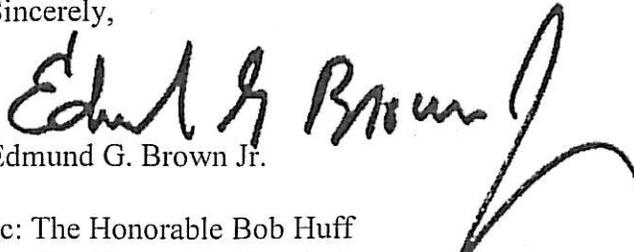
Since the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was signed into law in 2010, California has made extraordinary progress implementing many of its provisions, including establishing the Health Benefit Exchange. Several benefits of the Affordable Care Act have already gone into effect, but its most significant provisions, reducing the number of uninsured, encouraging health and wellness, changes to the private health insurance market, and reforming the health care delivery system to lower costs and improve quality, will not begin until 2014.

For almost two years now, we have worked with the legislature and all interested stakeholders to prepare for these changes, many of which require revisions to current law. We will work with you to complete what we can in the current session, but many important issues and questions cannot be addressed or answered without further guidance from the federal government and additional analysis to understand the interrelationship of the decisions we must make.

Therefore, I plan to call a special session at the beginning of the next legislative session to continue this important work of implementing the Affordable Care Act.

We look forward to continuing our work with you, your members and other stakeholders so that California can best position itself to responsibly and effectively implement the federal law's requirements.

Sincerely,


Edmund G. Brown Jr.

cc: The Honorable Bob Huff
The Honorable Connie Conway

