

DON'T MAKE SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES BROKE, DON'T PROMOTE THE UNDERGROUND ECONOMY, DON'T DISRUPT CONTINUITY OF CARE, PROTECT JOBS *OPPOSE AB 889 (AMMIANO)*



Seniors and other frail Californians depend on private home care services to keep them safe and healthy in their home and to avoid institutionalization. Their specific and unique needs require flexibility in how a home care company can best provide care, and this has long been accomplished through certain exemptions in labor law which **keep the cost of care affordable** and allow for **continuity of care**. In this economic downturn it can be especially challenging for seniors to continue to pay for the care, particularly if they require 24 hour live-in assistance.



AB 889 proposes to drastically increase the cost of care for seniors and people with disabilities by overturning these longstanding exemptions and adding additional liabilities and costly burdens such as:

- Paid vacation days
- Presumption of employer negligence for worker's compensation
- Elimination of the overtime exemption allowed in Wage Order 15
- Significant increase in opportunities for litigation and penalties against seniors, people with disabilities, and other home care providers.



Already there is a robust **underground economy** in home care where neither the consumer nor the worker has any protections against financial, physical, or emotional abuse. The underground economy has no oversight, taxes are not paid, liability is not covered, and it often leads to one side taking advantage of the other. If the cost of home care is drastically increased, as proposed in AB 889, then the price difference between legitimate home care companies and the underground option will widen and the underground economy will dramatically grow, at a detriment to all stakeholders involved.

If AB 889 is passed then significant regulatory burdens will be placed on the home care industry, causing the job growth in this sector, which California has benefited from, to come to a halt. Now more than ever it is critical that we protect jobs.



For these reasons CAHSAH urges legislators to oppose AB 889.

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