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California SBDC supports Website to help California businesses navigate health care law

*Employers can get the facts on the law's business-specific terms that are most important for
running their businesses*

Sacramento, Calif.– California's leading business organizations and The California Endowment announced that they have joined together to launch the Health Law Guide for Business – a first-of-its kind Website that provides accurate and understandable information on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The guide is tailored specifically for employers to access information regarding the law's provisions that could impact business operations. Available at www.healthlawguideforbusiness.org, the site helps business owners navigate through all 2,409 pages of the health care law.

"While there are many online options with information on the health care law, the Health Law Guide for Business is the only one created by a collaborative effort of statewide and regional California business organizations," said Priscilla Lopez, State Chair for the SBDC program. "The California SBDC program is a proud partner of this website because we want small business owners to have easy access to information about laws that impact their business – particularly those as expensive and important as health care."

California SBDC partnered with the Bay Area Council, California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, Pacific Business Group on Health, Silicon Valley Leadership Group, Small Business Majority, Small Business California and The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce after recognizing the need for a resource to help California's business community stay informed of the law's implementation and address misinformation about the law.

With a law that includes as many levels of benefits, complexities and details as the Affordable Care Act, many California employers still remain confused about what the law means to them and how it will impact their business. According to a report by Pacific Community Ventures, *Health Care and Small Business: Understanding Health Care Decision Making in California*, out of the 804 California small business employers surveyed, 43 percent said they are more likely to offer health insurance after learning of key benefits – like tax credits – made available by the health care law.

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Guide for Business:

The Health Law Guide for Business (The Guide) – established in 2012 by the Bay Area Council, California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, California Small Business Development Centers, Pacific Business Group on Health, Silicon Valley Leadership Group, Small Business Majority, Small Business California, the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and The California Endowment – is the first-of-its-kind website devoted to informing California’s business community about business-specific provisions of the health care law. As an information hub for California businesses, workers and the media, The Guide website provides accurate information on the health care law that’s most important for employers to run and operate their businesses. Learn more by visiting:



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About the California SBDC Program: *The California Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Program is the leader in providing small business owners and entrepreneurs with the tools and guidance needed to become successful. Local SBDCs provide comprehensive and expert guidance on issues such as start-up basics, financing, business and marketing plan development, procurement and government contracting. These services are delivered throughout California via an extensive network of 38 Small Business Development Centers. The California SBDC network serves more than 50,000 small business owners annually. One-on-one consulting is funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration and local partners and is offered at no cost. Consulting is supplemented by low-cost or free seminars and conferences. Learn more by visiting: www.californiasbdc.org*

About The California Endowment

The California Endowment, a private, statewide health foundation, was established in 1996 to expand access to affordable, quality health care for underserved individuals and communities, and to promote fundamental improvements in the health status of all Californians. Headquartered in downtown Los Angeles, The Endowment has regional offices in Sacramento, Oakland, Fresno and San Diego, with program staff working throughout the state. The Endowment challenges the conventional wisdom that medical settings and individual choices are solely responsible for people’s health. The Endowment believes that health happens in neighborhoods, schools, and with prevention. For more information, visit The Endowment’s homepage at <http://www.calendow.org>.

