



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH ACCESS



**Additional Organizations:**

**March 12, 2014**

- ACT for Women and Girls
- BreastFeedLA
- California Women's Law Center
- Center on Reproductive Rights and Justice at UC Berkeley School of Law
- Great Beginnings for Black Babies, Inc.
- Los Angeles County Perinatal Mental Health Task Force
- MCAH Action: Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Directors
- Maternal Mental Health Los Angeles
- National Council of Jewish Women
- Physicians for Reproductive Health

TO: Senate Budget Sub. No. 3 and Assembly Budget Sub. No. 1  
 RE: Governor's Budget Proposal for Pregnant Women's Coverage

- 1) While we applaud the Governor's proposal to expand Medi-Cal's income limit for full benefits for adult pregnant applicants from 60% to 100% of poverty, more must be done:
  - Adult pregnant applicants should be granted **full Medi-Cal to 138% of poverty, like other adults**. Pregnant applicants must not be left out of health care reform.
  
- 2) In addition, we must ensure all of the following for women with income up to 200% of poverty who are eligible to enroll in both an Exchange plan and Medi-Cal:
  - Women must be provided with **clear, timely information** at the time of applying and renewing benefits about their program enrollment choices and the impacts of each choice on consumer costs, benefits, and provider access.
  - Women in the Exchange who also qualify for Medi-Cal must **not lose access to any of Medi-Cal's benefits**, including but not limited to Medi-Cal's Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP) benefits, either in law or practice.
  - Women in the Exchange who also qualify for Medi-Cal must also have **out of network access to family planning and other reproductive health services**, even if in-network providers are available.
  
- 3) For women who opt to enroll solely in pregnancy-only Medi-Cal, the scope of services must conform with all federal requirements. **California should, as most other states do, provide all Medicaid "services [and] items for pregnant women that it covers for other adults."** Vol.77 Fed. Reg. No. 57, 17144, 17149 (March 23, 2012).

Our organizations look forward to continuing to work with the Administration on all of these issues. For additional information, please contact Lynn Kersey at [LynnK@mchaccess.org](mailto:LynnK@mchaccess.org) or Lucy Quacinella at [lucyqmas@gmail.com](mailto:lucyqmas@gmail.com).