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Immediate Release

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS-LOS ANGELES (NAWBO-LA)  
ISSUES STATEMENT ON HEALTH CARE SECURITY AND COST REDUCTION ACT**

**Statement from Helen Han, CEO of NAWBO-LA:**

We are disappointed that the Senate Health Committee today refused passage of AB 1X, the California Health Care Security and Cost Reduction Act. This is a setback for health care reform, but not the end of the fight.

We have always known that achieving comprehensive health care reform would be difficult. Our members did not expect an overnight solution to the problem, but we did hope that the Legislature would keep at it until answers could be found to the many questions about how we could best achieve our objective.

We hope members of the Senate will revisit this decision later this year, with the goal of enacting a new health care system.

As business owners, we are all too familiar with the pressure of rising health care costs. And, as women, we share the concerns of our employees over their well-being and the well-being of their families.

Californians need comprehensive health care reform that guarantees access to quality, affordable health coverage and that requires shared responsibility by all. These are paramount principles to our membership.

We supported AB 1X because it would have accomplished both of these goals. It would have brought the cost of health care down for everyone and would have allowed Californians to manage their own health care coverage.

We applaud the leadership of Gov. Schwarzenegger and Speaker Nuñez in championing this comprehensive health care reform plan and hope they continue to push for health care reform solutions despite today's setback handed out by the Senate Health Committee.

The process these two leaders have undertaken has not been an easy one, but, their vision has prompted a dialogue that has brought together unlikely stakeholders -- from labor to business to consumer groups -- who are working together to craft a practical solution to this crisis. That in and of itself is progress.

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### **About NAWBO-LA**

One of 80-plus nationwide chapters of the National Association of Women Business Owners, NAWBO-LA represents the interests of more than 417,000 privately held women-owned businesses in the greater Los Angeles region, employing over 378,000 people and generating nearly \$68 billion in sales. NAWBO-LA strives to ensure that women entrepreneurs are recognized as a public policy voice to be reckoned with, a formidable economic force, and as effective agents for change in the dynamic business environment that is Southern California. For more information, visit [www.nawbola.org](http://www.nawbola.org).