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## For Immediate Release

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### Statement by San Francisco Labor Council Executive Director Tim Paulson on Senate Cloture Vote on Health Care Bill November 21, 2009

Tonight's vote by the Senate to break a Republican filibuster and move forward with debate on health care reform is a critical and historic milestone in the march toward quality, affordable health care for America.

Our senators, Sen. Boxer and Sen. Feinstein, stood up for working families in California by voting to begin formal debate on a solution to the health care problems that torment our state's working people daily.

Senators will now have the opportunity to come up with the best health care law for America. They have a ways to go.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act's strong cost cutting measures go further than any previous legislation. But the bill must be improved in important areas. The employer responsibility provision should be expanded to cover all employers. And any plan to tax working families' benefits should be eliminated—taxes on the middle class are the wrong way to pay for health care.

We look forward to working with our senators and representatives to fulfill the promise of quality, affordable health care that our country deserves.

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