



**American Hospital
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NEWS RELEASE

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REP. HENRY WAXMAN TO RECEIVE AHA'S HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

WASHINGTON (April 3, 2014) – The American Hospital Association (AHA) today announced that Rep. Henry A. Waxman of California will be presented the AHA Honorary Life Membership Award for his contributions to hospitals and health care in America. The award recognizes individuals who have made important contributions to the health care field and who share the mission, values and goals of the AHA. Rep. Waxman will receive the award at a ceremony at the AHA Annual Membership Meeting on May 5 in Washington, D.C.

Rep. Waxman recently announced his retirement after serving in the U.S. House of Representative for 40 years. He was called “one of the most prolific and successful lawmakers of modern times,” by *The Washington Post* and he was instrumental in writing and passing major pieces of health care legislation.

“Representative Waxman has been a leader on public health and environmental issues his entire career and has served as an effective advocate for improving the health care system on behalf of all patients,” said AHA President and CEO Rich Umbdenstock. “We are proud to honor Rep. Waxman through this Honorary Life Membership award for his many contributions.”

Rep. Waxman played an instrumental role in leading the way toward health care reform. In addition to advocating for universal health insurance, he has fought for: comprehensive Medicare

and Medicaid coverage; legislation expanding children's health coverage; providing services and medical care to people with AIDS; bringing drugs for small patient populations and lower-priced generic drugs to market; clean air legislation; nursing home reform; and nutritional labeling. His committee hearings delving into tobacco industry marketing practices opened the way for FDA regulation of tobacco products. In the 1990s, he worked to double National Institutes of Health research funding.

Rep. Waxman's work includes sponsoring a long list of health bills that have been enacted into law. These measures include the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, the Ryan White CARE Act, the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Mortality Prevention Act, the Safe Medical Devices Act, the Patent Term Restoration and Drug Competition Act, the Orphan Drug Act and the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009.

About the American Hospital Association

The AHA is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the improvement of health in their communities. The AHA is the national advocate for its members, which include nearly 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks and other providers of care. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends. For more information visit the website at www.aha.org.

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