

# In His Own Words

## **Gov. Schwarzenegger Promised His Workers' Compensation Reform Wouldn't Harm Injured Workers The Governor Broke His Promise to Protect Injured Workers**

**B**efore he was elected, Arnold Schwarzenegger promised voters that he would preserve medical care injured workers need to be cured and relieved of their injuries. He promised he would protect their right to be cured and relieved of the pain of work-related injuries.

“As governor, I will ensure all guidelines fulfill the requirement imposed by Article 14, Section 4 of the California Constitution that **all reasonable medical services that are necessary to cure and relieve a work-related injury be provided.**”  
(Five Step Plan to Rein in the Runaway Workers' Compensation System, JoinArnold.com)

“I will take steps to **help injured workers get the care they need....**”  
(“Pass Jobs Package with Real Workers' Comp Reform,” JoinArnold.com)

**After he was elected, Gov. Schwarzenegger promised that his proposed reforms would improve care for injured workers. They have worsened care for injured workers.**

“I never want to hurt any one of the workers or the people that get the benefits.”  
(Sacramento Bee, Nov. 19, 2003)

“To heal injured workers, [my proposal] **emphasizes the importance of health care and doctors** rather than lawyers and judges.” (State of the State speech, Jan. 6, 2004)

“Our bill provides strong reform that will...**improve care for injured workers.**”  
(Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, April 19, 2004 news release)

“The goal of the legislation is to reform the system so that businesses get more for their premiums and **workers get more** as well,” Schwarzenegger spokesman Vince Sollitto.  
(Associated Press story, Dec. 25, 2003)

“Schwarzenegger's spokesman Vince Sollitto rejected the notion that the governor's plan stacks the system against the worker.

“The governor's proposal is designed to **tilt the system back toward the injured worker** and their employers and away from all the folks in the middle who are taking too many pieces,” Sollitto said.

“Schwarzenegger says his proposals will **put more cash into the pocketbooks of the most severely disabled** of the estimated 923,000 Californians who will file workers' compensation claims this year. But according to insurance industry figures, the governor's definition of 'severely injured' will only apply to 2.5 percent of all claimants.”  
(Sacramento Bee, Nov. 30, 2003)

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