

Prop 8: Support

<https://www.yeson8.com/>

One liners:

- Requires dialysis clinics to improve patient care, update equipment and provide safe and clean facilities

What is dialysis?

Dialysis keeps patients alive when their kidneys fail by taking out the patient's blood, cleaning it, and putting it back in their body. In California, 66,000 people depend on dialysis, and two big corporations, Fresenius and DaVita, dominate the dialysis industry.

Dialysis patient care is in crisis and it's driving up costs for all Californians:

- *Patient care is suffering:* Patients and caregivers report bloodstains and cockroaches in dialysis clinics. The lack of sanitation and hygiene can contribute to high infection rates.
- *Overcharging drives up costs for all Californians:* California dialysis companies charge patients with private insurance an average \$150,000 for a year of dialysis treatment — a 350% markup from the cost of providing care!
- *Insurance companies are forced to pass the costs to all policyholders:* Blue Shield of California reports that it takes 3,800 enrollees to offset the cost of one dialysis patient.
- *Dialysis corporation profits are out of control:* Big dialysis corporations make nearly \$4 billion annually from their US dialysis operations, spending lavishly on executive pay and perks like private airplanes. The average profit margin for dialysis clinics in California is 17% — nearly five times as high as an average hospital.

Yes on 8 – Kidney Patients Deserve Better

- Dialysis patients report bloodstains, cockroaches and dirty bathrooms at dialysis clinics, and their lives have been put at risk from exposure to infections. When someone needs their blood taken out, cleaned, and put back in three times a week, they should have a clean and sterile environment. Prop 8 will push dialysis corporations to invest more in patient care.
- California's largest dialysis corporations make nearly \$4 billion in profits from their dialysis operations in the United States, charging \$150,000 a year for some patients. That's a 350 percent markup and drives up healthcare prices for everyone in the state. Prop 8 limits what dialysis corporations can charge and requires them to refund excessive profits that aren't spent on improving patient care.
- Despite nearly \$4 billion in profits from their dialysis operations in the United States, the giant dialysis corporations don't invest enough in improving patient care. Rather than spend their money on executives and investors, Prop 8 limits the corporations' profits and encourages them to improve patient safety, staffing and conditions in the clinics.
- Supported by the Dialysis Patients, CA Democratic Party, California Labor Federation, veterans, firefighters, nurses, seniors, and many more. Check out YesOn8.com for a full supporters list.