Biosimilars and SB 1094: A Safe and Effective Way to Reduce Excessive Drug Spending and Improve Health Care Affordability.

RUNAWAY Rx

Yes on SB 1094. Prescription drug costs are the fastest-growing driver of health care spending in the U.S., and their impact is felt directly in the health care premiums every Californian pays. **SB 1094 will save Californians nearly $88 million in total annual premiums and reduce enrollee cost sharing by between $92 and $310 per year.**

A Breakdown of California Drug Spending

$14.9 Billion
paid by health plans in 2024 – an increase of 1.3 billion (or 9.5%) in just one year.

15.4%
of every premium dollar is spent to cover the cost of prescription drugs.

72%
Percentage increase in prescription drug costs since 2017.

What are Biosimilars?

Biosimilars are highly similar variants of already approved biologic drugs that show no meaningful clinical difference in terms of safety, purity and potency.

Biosimilars are Safe and Effective

Patients and physicians can be confident in biosimilars. The FDA requires the same rigorous standards of safety, purity, and potency for biosimilars as for the original biologic medicines they reference.

How does FDA approval of Biosimilars work?

- **Biosimilar developers must prove their product is highly similar to the reference biologic using analytical, clinical, and non-clinical data.**
- **Over 80 biosimilars have been approved by the FDA since 2015.**

The Cost Savings Opportunity from Biosimilars and SB 1094

Prescription drugs are the fastest growing driver of health care costs and biosimilars offer significant costs savings, averaging between 10-40% less than brand name biologic drugs.

$56.2B
National Savings from biosimilars since 2015

$20.2B
National biosimilar savings in 2024 alone (nearly double year-over-year)

10–40%
Average biosimilar price discount vs. brand biologic at launch

$88M
Estimated annual premium savings for California consumers from **SB 1094**

$92–$310
Estimated yearly reduction in out-of-pocket costs for California patients from **SB 1094**

How much could biosimilars save?

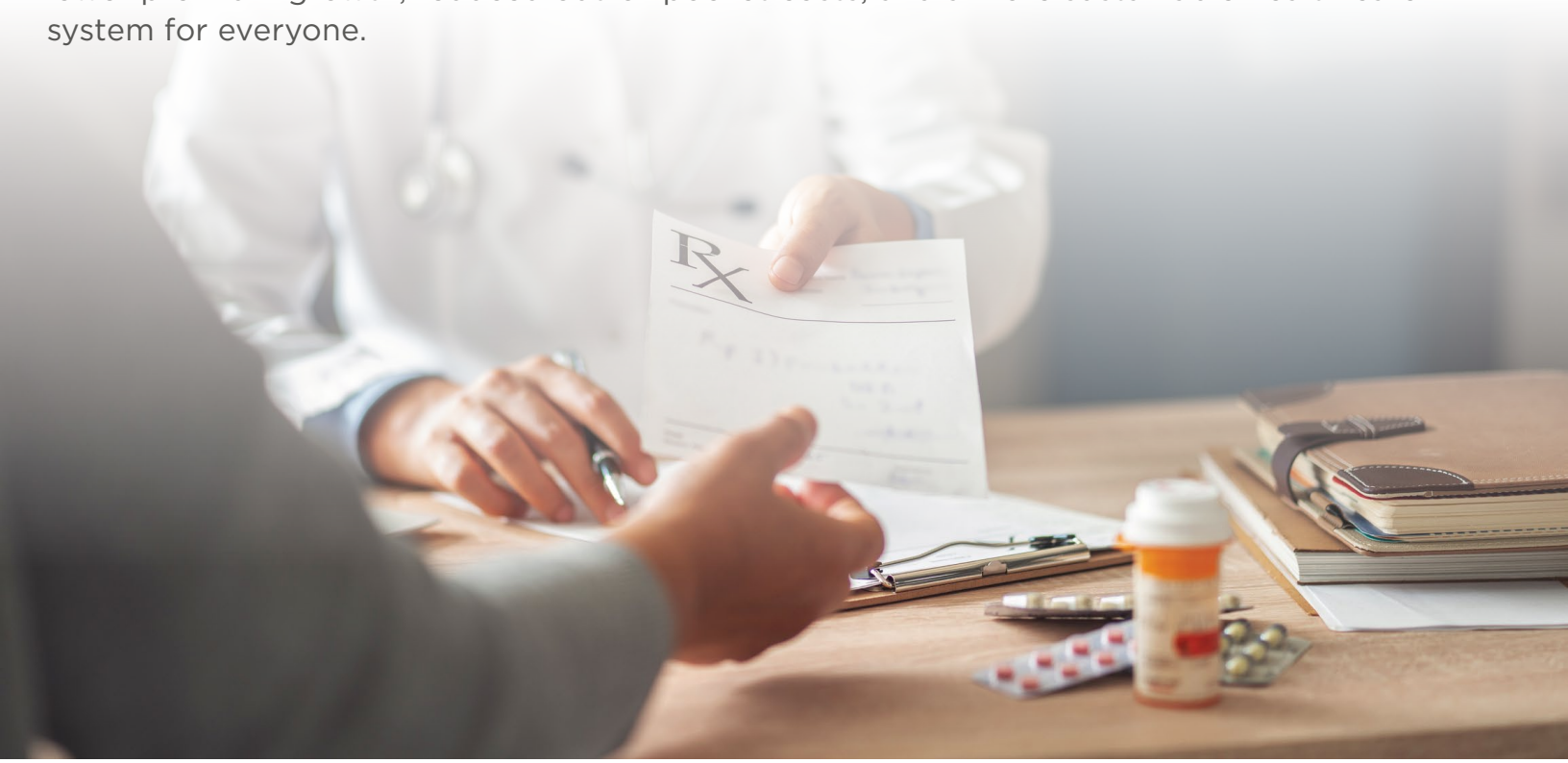
$180 BILLION nationally between 2023 and 2027.

Brand Biologic vs. Biosimilar: At a Glance

As the cost of care continues to rise, biosimilars provide a meaningful, safe, and effective way to reduce costs while ensuring patients receive proven, high-quality treatments.

	Brand Name Biologic	Biosimilar
FDA Approved	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Safe and Effective	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Same Clinical Outcome	✓ Yes	✓ Yes

Biosimilars are FDA-approved, rigorously tested, and proven safe. They offer patients the same clinical outcomes as expensive brand name biologics at a fraction of the cost. **California's leaders should support SB 1094** because wider biosimilars adoption means lower premium growth, reduced out-of-pocket costs, and a more sustainable health care system for everyone.



YES on SB 1094.

Learn more at www.RunawayRx.org

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