**MARTIN GALLEGOS, D.C.**

**BIOGRAPHY**

Dr. Martin Gallegos is the Senior Vice President for Policy Development and Communications for the Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC), where he is responsible for health care policy development, advocacy, and association communications for hospitals serving Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties.

Prior to joining HASC, Dr. Gallegos served as the Senior Vice President and Chief Legislative Advocate for the California Hospital Association (CHA). CHA is the statewide trade association representing the interests of over 400 hospitals, health systems and other health care providers in California.

Dr. Gallegos has an extensive background in both health care and government service. In November of 1994, Dr. Gallegos made history when he was elected to represent the 57th Assembly district, becoming the first Doctor of Chiropractic ever elected to the California State Legislature. In 2001, he was appointed by Governor Gray Davis as the Patient Advocate for the State of California, the only position of its kind in the United States. In this capacity, Dr. Gallegos was responsible for, among other duties, publishing the annual HMO Report Card and developing consumer education and awareness programs to assist over 18 million HMO enrollees in California.

While in the state legislature, Assembly member Gallegos served as Chair of the Assembly Health Committee for four years and Chaired the Assembly Select Committee on Health Access. During his distinguished legislative career, Assembly member Gallegos was the author of over eighty pieces of legislation including a landmark measure to create the Department of Managed Health Care, the first such agency of its kind in the country. In addition, Dr. Gallegos authored legislation to allow parents of Health Families eligible children to enroll in the Healthy Families program. He was names “Legislator of the Year” seven times by six different health care and patient advocate organizations.

Dr. Gallegos received his education at East Los Angeles College, Occidental College and Los Angeles College of Chiropractic. He earned an Associate of Arts Degree, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology and graduated as a Doctor of Chiropractic in 1982. Also, he was named a Fellow of the Palmer-West Academy of Chiropractic. Dr. Gallegos maintained a private chiropractic practice in the City of Baldwin Park for fifteen years. During his time in practice the California Chiropractic Association honored Dr. Gallegos with the Doctor of the Year award and he was also the recipient of their Distinguished Service Award.