

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH UNDERWRITERS

TOP PRIORITY BILL STATUS REPORT

JULY 20, 2017

BILL/AUTHOR	SUBJECT	POSITION	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
AB 156 (Wood D)	Individual market: single risk pool: index rate	WATCH: PENDING AMENDMENT	CAHU is closely watching AB 156 for amendments. AB 156, which is currently a spot bill, is very likely to become a prime vehicle for IFP health care reforms that will be added in reaction to changes made at the federal level in the coming weeks and months. Identical to SB 133.	PASSED SENATE HEALTH To SENATE FLOOR 7/20/2017
AB 157 (Wood D)	Small group market: single risk pool: index rate	WATCH: PENDING AMENDMENT	CAHU is closely watching AB 157 for amendments. AB 157, which is currently a spot bill, is likely to become a prime vehicle for small group health care reforms that will be added in reaction to changes made at the federal level in the coming weeks and months. Identical to SB 134.	PASSED SENATE HEALTH To SENATE FLOOR 7/20/2017
AB 251 (Bonta D)	Health and care facilities	WATCH	This bill has been gut and amended and now will require dialysis clinics to spend at least 85% of their treatment revenue on direct patient care, quality improvements, taxes, and licensure fees. Clinics that do not meet the 85% requirement will be required to issue refunds to private payers and individuals who purchase dialysis services. Previously, CAHU SUPPORTED AB 251 which would ensure health care consumers are afforded better access to specialty clinics throughout California.	PASSED SENATE HEALTH To SENATE Appropriations HEARING: 8/21/17

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AB 417 (Wood D)	Health coverage: small employers	WATCH: PENDING AMENDMENT	CAHU is watching AB 417 for amendments. AB 417, which is currently a spot bill, is very likely to become a prime vehicle for small group health care reforms that will be added in reaction to changes made at the federal level in the coming weeks and months.	To SENATE Appropriations HEARING: 8/21/17
AB 595 (Wood D)	Health Insurers: Mergers And Acquisitions	WATCH: PENDING AMENDMENT	CAHU is tracking AB 595 regarding health care service plan acquisitions and mergers. CAHU believes that it is necessary to ensure affordable choices for health care consumers that are only available through a competitive health insurance marketplace.	HELD on ASSEMBLY Appropriations SUSPENSE FILE 5/26/17 TWO YEAR BILL
AB 989 (Cooper D) and (Obernolte R)	Health Savings Accounts: Tax Conformity	SUPPORT	CAHU is working in tandem with NAIFA California and IIABCal to SUPPORT AB 989 which would conform state and federal tax laws pertaining to health savings accounts (HSAs) in order to provide needed savings to public and private sector employees and employers. Health Savings Accounts allow individuals to save tax-free dollars to pay for near-term medical expenses and also save for future longer-term costs, in particular, medical care costs that occur after retirement.	HELD on ASSEMBLY Appropriations SUSPENSE FILE 5/26/17
AB 1584 (Gonzalez Fletcher D)	Insurance: production agents: license examination: contracts	OPPOSE UNLESS AMEND	CAHU OPPOSES AB 1584 unless amended which attempts to mandate agents who take the license examination in Spanish to provide all contracts, policies, certificates, riders, and any other required notices in Spanish, if Spanish was principally used in the negotiation of the contract. The mandate would be more appropriately placed on health plans and carriers who are the source of all documents listed in the bill.	ASSEMBLY INSURANCE TWO YEAR BILL 5/12/2017

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AB 1601 (Bloom D)	New Mandate: Hearing aids: minors	OPPOSE UNLESS AMEND	CAHU OPPOSES AB 1601 that mandates all health plans provide coverage for hearing devices for those under 18 years of age unless amended to include reasonable cost controls.	HELD on ASSEMBLY Appropriations SUSPENSE FILE 5/26/17 TWO YEAR BILL
SB 17 (Hernandez D)	Health care: prescription drug costs.	SUPPORT	CAHU supports SB 17 that seeks to improve transparency of prescription drug costs by requiring health care service plans and carriers that report rate information to also include information regarding the percentage of the premium dollar spent on prescription drugs. This bill also requires drug manufacturers to provide prior notice of rate increases for prescription drugs, as specified.	ASSEMBLY Appr opriations COMMITTEE HEARING: NOT SCHEDULED
SB 133 (Hernandez D)	Individual market: single risk pool: index rate.	WATCH: PENDING AMENDMENT	CAHU is closely watching SB 133 for amendments. SB 133, which is currently a spot bill, is very likely to become a prime vehicle for IFP health care reforms that will be added in reaction to changes made at the federal level in the coming weeks and months. Identical to AB 156.	ASSEMBLY FLOOR NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REMOVE FROM INACTIVE FILE
SB 134 (Hernandez D)	Small group market: single risk pool: index rate.	WATCH: PENDING AMENDMENT	CAHU is closely watching SB 134 for amendments. SB 134, which is currently a spot bill, is very likely to become a prime vehicle for small group health care reforms that will be added in reaction to changes made at the federal level in the coming weeks and months. Identical to AB 157.	ASSEMBLY FLOOR CONSENT CALENDAR ORDERED TO INACTIVE FILE
SB 172 (Portantino D)	Health Care Coverage: Fertility Preservation	OPPOSE	CAHU OPPOSES SB 172 that increases the cost of health care by mandating all new individual or group health insurance policies issued, amended, or renewed on and after January 1, 2018, provide fertility preservation coverage for any and all situations, direct or indirect, where fertility may be impacted.	HELD on SENATE Appropriations SUSPENSE FILE 2 YEAR BILL 5/25/2017

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SB 199 (Hernandez D)	Advisory Committee: Health Care Cost, Quality and Equity Atlas	NEUTRAL	As amended, CAHU no longer opposes SB 199 and is now NEUTRAL on the bill. SB 199 now calls for DMHC to convene a broad spectrum of health care stakeholders and experts, to identify the type of data, purpose of use, and entities and individuals that are required to report to, or that may have access to, a health care cost, quality, and equity atlas.	ASSEMBLY Appropriations SUSPENSE FILE HEARING: NOT SCHEDULED
SB 288 (Hernandez D)	Health coverage: small employers.	WATCH: PENDING AMENDMENT	CAHU is closely monitoring SB 288 for amendments. SB 288, which is currently a spot bill, is very likely to become a prime vehicle for small group health care reforms that will be added in reaction to changes made at the federal level in the coming weeks and months. Identical to AB 417.	ASSEMBLY FLOOR ASSEMBLY CONSENT CALENDAR
SB 515 (Fuller R)	Health care coverage: individual market.	WATCH	CAHU is closely watching SB 515 for amendments. SB 515, which is currently a spot bill, is very likely to become a prime vehicle for individual and family plan health care reforms that will be added in reaction to changes made at the federal level in the coming weeks and months. Identical to AB 156.	SENATE RULES 2 YEAR BILL 5/12/2017
SB 562 (Lara D)	Universal Single Payer Health System	OPPOSE	CAHU is working with NAIFA California and IIABCaI to OPPOSE SB 562 (Lara/Atkins) which seeks to replace California's healthcare marketplace with a universal Single Payer system that would reduce competition, limit options for consumers, raise costs, and threaten access to care.	Passed SENATE FLOOR 6/1/17 HELD AT ASSEMBLY DESK -PER SPEAKER RENDON
SB 640 (Hertzberg D)	New Tax: Services	OPPOSE	CAHU OPPOSES SB 640, which proposes to establish a first-time sales tax on services, including services provided by independent health insurance agents.	SENATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE 3/2/2017 2-YEAR BILL

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SB 788 (Lara D)	Insurance: licensing: requirements	SUPPORT	In a coalition with other insurance affiliates including NAIFA and IIABCaI, CAHU SUPPORTS SB 788, which would require the Insurance Commissioner to allow individuals who are applying for or renewing an insurance license to use an Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN).	PASSED ASSEMBLY INSURANCE To ASSEMBLY Appropriations HEARING: NOT SCHEDULED