

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH UNDERWRITERS

TOP PRIORITY BILL STATUS REPORT

JUNE 14, 2018

BILL/AUTHOR	SUBJECT	POSITION	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
AB 1751 (Low D)	Controlled substances: CURES database	Support Priority 2	CAHU SUPPORTS AB 1751 which would authorize the Department of Justice (DOJ) to participate in an interjurisdictional information sharing agreement between prescription drug monitoring programs across state lines. CAHU is supportive of the Legislature's coordinated efforts to curb opioid addiction and abuse and decrease the associated high costs of prescription drugs on premiums.	SENATE B., P. & E.D. HEARING: 6/18/18
AB 1752 (Low D)	Controlled substances: CURES database	Support Priority 2	CAHU SUPPORTS AB 1752 which would add Schedule V controlled substances to the CURES database and require a dispensing pharmacy, clinic, or other dispenser to report the information required by the CURES database no more than one working day after a controlled substance is dispensed.	SENATE B., P. & E.D. HEARING: 6/18/18
AB 1753 (Low D)	Controlled substances: CURES database	Support Priority 2	CAHU SUPPORTS AB 1753 which would, beginning January 1, 2020, authorize the DOJ to reduce or limit the number of approved printers of prescription forms for controlled substance prescriptions to 3. The bill would also require prescription forms for controlled substance prescriptions to have a uniquely serialized number, and would require a printer to submit specified information to the DOJ for all prescription forms delivered.	SENATE B., P. & E.D. HEARING: 6/18/18
AB 1785 (Nazarian D)	Medi-Cal eligibility: assets.	SUPPORT Priority 3	CAHU SUPPORTS AB 1785 which excludes the principal and interest of a 529 savings plan, from consideration for purposes of any asset or resources test to determine eligibility for Medi-Cal benefits applicants or beneficiary whose eligibility is not determined using MAGI-based financial methods. This bill supports saving for a college education without fear of a loss of Medi-Cal benefits.	PASSED SENATE HEALTH CMTE SENATE APPR. HEARING: NOT SCHEDULED

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AB 1963 (Waldron R)	Medi-Cal: reimbursement: opioid addiction treatment.	SUPPORT Priority 3	CAHU SUPPORTS AB1963 which would increase the reimbursement rate for providers who are certified to prescribe medication-assisted treatment drugs that curb opioid addiction and abuse and decrease the associated high costs of prescription drugs on healthcare premiums.	HELD IN ASSEMBLY APPROPS. ON SUSPENSE FILE DEAD
AB 2088 (Santiago D)	Patient records: addenda	Support Priority 3	CAHU SUPPORTS AB 2088 which increases our client's access to and ability to correct or note inaccurate or incorrect information in their medical records. This improves communication and accuracy between patients and their providers.	PASSED SENATE HEALTH SENATE APPR. HEARING: NOT SCHEDULED
AB 2416 (Wood D)	Health care coverage.	WATCH	CAHU is currently WATCHING AB 2416 for substantive amendments likely to require health plans with Medi-Cal contracts and that are also licensed to offer health plans that qualify under the ACA, to negotiate with Covered California. CONTENTS PUT INTO AB 2427	HELD IN ASSEMBLY APPROPS. ON SUSPENSE FILE DEAD
AB 2427 (Wood D)	Medi-Cal: anticompetitive conduct.	WATCH	Requires the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to decline to renew or award a contract, in whole or in part, of a for-profit Medi-Cal Managed Care (MCMC) plan, if a determination is made that the for-profit MCMC engaged or engages in anticompetitive conduct, as defined, or has a pattern or practice of not complying with the medical loss ratio. Also requires, on or after January 1, 2020, a health care service plan (health plan) that has a contract with DHCS, as specified, to negotiate with Covered California regarding offering individual products on the Exchange in the health plan's approved service areas that overlap with counties where there are two or fewer health plans offering products on the Exchange as of the 2018 plan year.	SENATE HEALTH HEARING: 6/27/18

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AB 2459 (Friedman D)	Personal income taxes: credits: health insurance premiums.	WATCH	CAHU is reviewing AB 2459 which creates a refundable personal income tax credit to Californians with income between 400% and 600% of the FPL equal to the cost of health insurance premiums for the lowest cost bronze plan for the individual that exceeds 8 percent of the individual's modified gross income.	SENATE GOV. & F. HEARING: NOT SCHEDULED
AB 2472 (Wood D)	Health care coverage: Medi-Cal: public purchase option.	WATCH	CAHU is currently watching AB 2472 for substantive amendments. The bill is likely to require the Board of Covered California to prepare an analysis and evaluation, to determine the feasibility of a public health insurance plan option to increase competition and choice for health care consumers.	SENATE HEALTH HEARING: 6/20/18
AB 2487 (McCarty D)	Physicians and surgeons: education: opiate-dependent patient treatment and management.	SUPPORT Priority 3	CAHU SUPPORTS AB 2487 which would require the application for a physician's and surgeon's certificate to include proof of satisfactory completion of a course on opiate-dependent patient treatment and management and also includes at least eight hours of instruction in buprenorphine treatment of opioid use disorders.	SENATE B., P. & E.D. HEARING: 6/27/18
AB 2499 (Arambula D)	Health care coverage: medical loss ratios.	NEUTRAL PRIORITY BILL	CAHU is NEUTRAL on AB 2499 which was significantly amended in the Senate Health Committee to no longer increase the minimum medical loss ratio (MLR) percentages by 5%. Now the bill requires MLRs to be consistent with federal law and any rules or regulations issued as in effect on January 1, 2017.	PASSED SENATE HEALTH CMTE SENATE APPR. HEARING: NOT SCHEDULED
AB 2502 (Wood D)	Health care payments database.	WATCH	CAHU is currently WATCHING AB 2502 for substantive amendments. The bill will require CHHSA, by 2020 to establish, implement, and administer the California Health Care Payments Database. This bill would require certain health care entities, including health care service plans, to provide specified information to be reviewed with a committee composed of a broad spectrum of health care stakeholders.	SENATE HEALTH 6/7/2018 HEARING: CANCELED AT AUTHOR REQUEST

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AB 2517 (Wood D)	Health care coverage.	WATCH	CAHU is currently WATCHING AB 2517 for substantive amendments. Currently, the bill would establish the Advisory Panel on Health Care Delivery Systems and Universal Coverage. The Panel would be appointed by the Secretary of HHS and tasked with developing a roadmap to present to the Health Committees in the Legislature by 2020.	SENATE HEALTH HEARING: 6/27/18
AB 2565 (Chiu D)	Affordability assistance: cost sharing.	WATCH	CAHU is currently WATCHING AB 2565 which would improve premium affordability by requiring Covered California to offer state funded premium assistance in addition to applicable federal tax subsidies.	SENATE HEALTH HEARING: 6/20/18
AB 2789 (Wood D)	Health care practitioners: prescriptions: electronic transmission.	SUPPORT Priority 2	CAHU SUPPORTS AB 2789 which as of January 1, 2020, would require health care practitioners authorized to issue prescriptions to have the capability to transmit electronic transmission prescriptions, and would require pharmacies to have the capability to receive those transmissions. CAHU believes this bill will help to reduce overprescribing or fraudulent prescriptions and is another measure to curb opioid addiction and abuse, and decrease the associated high costs of prescription drugs on healthcare premiums.	SENATE B., P. & E.D. HEARING: 6/18/18
AB 2863 (Nazarian D)	Health care coverage: prescriptions.	SUPPORT Priority 2	CAHU is in SUPPORT of AB 2863, which would limit the amount a health carrier may require a beneficiary to pay at the point of sale for a covered prescription to the lowest available cost, whether it is the applicable cost-sharing amount or the retail price. It would also require the amount paid for a prescription to be applied to the beneficiary's deductible and out-of-pocket maximum if the beneficiary opts to pay the cash price.	PASSED SENATE HEALTH CMTE SENATE APPR. HEARING: NOT SCHEDULED
AB 2904 (Carrillo D)	Healing arts: telehealth.	WATCH	CAHU is currently WATCHING AB 2904 which clarifies how patient consent may be documented by medical providers for the use of telehealth services. As telehealth evolves and develops we need to make sure state policy adapts as well to match best practices in providing patient care.	SENATE HEALTH 6/7/2018 HEARING: NOT SCHEDULED

BILL/AUTHOR	SUBJECT	POSITION	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
AB 3087 (Kalra D)	California Health Care Cost, Quality, and Equity Commission.	OPPOSE	CAHU is currently OPPOSED to AB 3087, which would establish an independent Health Care Cost, Quality and Equity Commission, under AB 3087, to set the prices paid to hospitals, doctors, and other providers of health care services to address the root cause of unaffordable health care without sacrificing quality. The Commission members would be appointed and would establish their own advisory committee to include specified stakeholders.	HELD IN APPROPS ON SUSPENSE FILE DEAD
SB 562 (Lara D)	Universal Single Payer Health System	OPPOSE PRIORITY BILL	CAHU is working with NAIFA California and IIABCal to OPPOSE SB 562 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.	HELD AT ASSEMBLY DESK -PER SPEAKER RENDON 2-YEAR BILL
SB 910 (Hernandez D)	Short-term limited duration health insurance.	OPPOSE UNLESS AMEND PRIORITY BILL	CAHU is OPPOSED UNLESS AMENDED to SB 910, which would prohibit the sale of short-term limited duration health insurance in California even in circumstances that would leave a consumer without any other coverage options.	ASSEMBLY HEALTH 5/31/2018 HEARING: 6/19/18
SB 993 (Hertzberg D)	New Tax: Services	OPPOSE Priority 2	CAHU OPPOSES SB 993, which proposes to establish a first-time sales tax on services, including services provided by independent health insurance agents.	HELD IN SENATE GOV and FINANCE 5/16/18 Informational Hearing: 8/8/18
SB 1008 (Skinner D)	Health insurance: dental services: medical loss ratio.	NEUTRAL PRIORITY BILL	CAHU is NEUTRAL on SB 1008 After recent amendments would require dental health plans to utilize a uniform benefit disclosure created by DMHC or DOI. The bill also, requires DMHC or CDI to post plan's or insurer's MLR annual report on their Internet Web sites within 45 days after receiving the report by July 1 of each year.	ASSEMBLY HEALTH 6/7/2018 HEARING: 6/26/18
SB 1121 (Dodd D)	Personal information.	OPPOSE	In a coalition, CAHU opposes SB 1121, which will drastically expand the civil liability of agencies of all sizes providing service in California. SB 1121 vastly expands the scope of who can sue	ASSEMBLY JUD. HEARING: 6/19/18

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			companies and non-profits for data breaches. Even more troubling, this bill would impose a minimum of \$200 and a maximum of \$1000 in statutory damages per consumer breach.	
SB 1156 (Leyva D)	Health care service plans: 3rd-party payments.	SUPPORT	CAHU SUPPORTS SB 1156 which regulates third parties who directly or indirectly pay insurance premiums for patients, and ensures that predatory provider practices are not rewarded with higher reimbursement rates.	ASSEMBLY HEALTH HEARING: 6/26/18
SB 1248 (Gaines R)	California Partnership for Long-Term Care Program.	SUPPORT Priority 2	CAHU SUPPORTS SB 1248 which would establish new minimum benefit levels for long-term care insurance (LTCI) policies certified by the Partnership for Long-term Care Program. This bill gives consumers more power to choose LTCI polices that best reflect their needs and resources with policies that meets current standards and more affordable options.	ASSEMBLY AGING & L.T.C. HEARING: 6/19/18
SB 1375 (Hernandez D)	Health insurance: small employer groups.	WATCH	CAHU is currently watching this bill that would exclude sole proprietors or their spouses, and partners or their spouses from small employer health plan contracts and policies. The bill would also revise the definition of "small employer" to include any small employer purchasing coverage for employees through any arrangement, rather than through a guaranteed association.	ASSEMBLY HEALTH HEARING: 6/26/18

Priority 1/Key Bill- Submit a letter outlining CAHU's position to the author and in official legislative records. Testify in committees and lobby key staff and legislators at every opportunity. Submit letter to the Governor asking for a signature or veto. Communicate frequent updates to CAHU leadership and membership on efforts relating to all of the above.

Priority 2- Submit a letter outlining CAHU's position to the author and for official legislative records. Testify in committees and lobby key staff and legislators when time permits. Submit letter to the Governor asking for a signature or veto. Communicate significant updates to CAHU leadership and membership on substantive changes.

Priority 3- CAHU supports/opposes in concept and may join a coalition aligned with our perspective but staff time will not be allocated to generating letters or lobbying efforts.

Watch- Bill is monitored for amendments and is tracked for any movement through the legislative process. Changes are reported to leadership in a prompt time frame. Most frequently used when bills are spot or intent language and awaiting further amendments.