

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Week of January 29, 2018

## State Issues

<p>Single Payer Debate</p>	<p>On Monday and Wednesday of next week, details included below, the Select Committee on Health Care Reform and Universal Coverage will host two informational hearings, chaired by Assemblyman Dr. Jim Wood (D-Healdsburg) and Assemblyman Dr. Joaquin Arambula (D-Fresno). Monday's hearing will focus on financing issues at the state and federal level. The current projected cost of the single payer bill under discussion, SB 562 (Lara), is \$400 billion, twice the current total state budget, with expectation that approximately half of those funds will come from the federal government; the source of the other revenues is not specified in the bill. Wednesday's hearing will focus on specific universal coverage proposals; this will likely be the platform for the California Nurses Association who is the sponsor of SB 562 to tout the value of single payer and strongly urge the Assembly to move the bill.</p> <p>You can live stream the hearings via: <a href="http://www.calchannel.com">www.calchannel.com</a></p> <p>You can attend the hearings in person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Monday, 2:00pm, State Capitol Room 4202</li><li>▪ Wednesday, 10:00am, State Capitol Room 4202</li></ul>
<p>Budget Update</p>	<p>The Department of Finance released some of its detailed Budget Trailer Bill Language, which reflect the changes in statute needed to accompany some of their proposals included in the Governor's January Budget. Of particular note, the Administration released language related to the Hospital Quality Assurance Fee administrative expenses, their proposal to eliminate the 340B program from the Medi-Cal program, their plans to delegate more license responsibility to Los Angeles County, and changes to dialysis clinics. See links below.</p> <p><b>Hospital Quality Assurance Fee Administration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <a href="http://dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/documents/HospitalQualityAssuranceFeeAdministration.pdf">http://dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/documents/HospitalQualityAssuranceFeeAdministration.pdf</a></li></ul> <p><b>340B Drug Reimbursement in the Medi-Cal Program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <a href="http://dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/documents/340BDrugReimbursementintheMedi-CalProgram.pdf">http://dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/documents/340BDrugReimbursementintheMedi-CalProgram.pdf</a></li></ul> <p><b>LA County Licensing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <a href="http://dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/documents/LosAngelesCountySupplementalLicenseFee.pdf">http://dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/documents/LosAngelesCountySupplementalLicenseFee.pdf</a></li></ul> <p><b>Use of Federal Standards for State Regulation (related to Dialysis Clinic Standards):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <a href="http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/documents/UseofFederalStandardsforStateRegulation.pdf">http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/documents/UseofFederalStandardsforStateRegulation.pdf</a></li></ul> <p>You can access all of the current TBL here: <a href="http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/">http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/</a></p>

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<p>Budget Hearing Schedules</p>	<p>The hearing schedule for the Senate and Assembly budget subcommittees covering health and human services has been released. <a href="#">Senate Budget Sub #3 hearings</a> are set for Thursday mornings at 9:30am throughout March and April. <a href="#">Assembly Budget Sub #1 hearings</a> are set Monday and Wednesday afternoons at 2:30pm over that same general time period. Please see the two detailed schedules attached to this note for the specific departments, offices, and topics set for hearing each day.</p>
<p>Health Care Matters to Latinos. And Their Health Matters to California</p>	<p>Last week, in preparation for the televised gubernatorial debate, the California Health Care Foundation published a report on a recent poll to highlight the health care interests of the state’s Latino population. They note that California’s 15 million Latino population are younger than other racial or ethnic groups in the state, which means that the future health of California’s overall health, rests with millions of Latino Californians.</p> <p>They also make the case that their needs and concerns not only matter to our overall population health, but it should be important to our next Governor as well.</p> <p>They highlight that more than half of California’s current uninsured population are Latinos, and CHCF states that getting to universal healthcare coverage – however we get there – will be important for our state to achieve. The report also states that half of the Medi-Cal population is Latino, and that 83% of Latinos in recent polling state that Medi-Cal was important to themselves or their families. As the state is the largest purchaser of health care, through the Medi-Cal program, the next governor will play a major role in determining the future of the program, and the cost and quality of care for millions. The report also highlights that the poll found that 87% of Latinos said it was very important for health plans to cover counseling or treatment for mental health conditions or substance abuse treatment, compared to 74% for Californians overall.</p> <p>You can access their full memo here: <a href="http://www.chcf.byf1.io/blog/health-care-matters-latinos-health-matters-california/">http://www.chcf.byf1.io/blog/health-care-matters-latinos-health-matters-california/</a></p>
<p><b>Federal Issues</b></p>	
<p>Status of Budget Deal and DACA</p>	<p>As reported by the Catholic Health Association of the U.S., a tentative deal for an omnibus budget bill for the remainder of FY2018 fell apart this week, and lawmakers are now facing another deadline to fund the government after February 8. While there is broad agreement to raise the budget caps for both defense and non-defense discretionary spending, the exact amounts for both remain sticking points. Several members of the conservative House Freedom Caucus also have raised new objections to additional spending, which makes an agreement likely to need the support of House Democrats. Congressional leaders are now floating the idea of another continuing resolution until mid-March, hoping that an omnibus will be ready then. That leaves the fate of Medicare extenders, and a two-year delay in scheduled Medicaid disproportionate hospital (DSH) payment cuts, unclear.</p> <p>CHA also reports that renewed negotiations to find a legislative solution to help participants in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and other young immigrants have not yet produced a workable solution. The Trump Administration and a significant group of conservative lawmakers continue to insist on changes to the current legal immigration system that DACA supporters have stated are unacceptable, including severe restriction to the family reunification program. Several bipartisan working groups continue to meet, and some amount of agreement has been reached regarding border security measures to be included in possible DACA legislation. Although many pro-immigration</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(more)</i></p>

Status of Budget Deal and DACA <i>(continued)</i>	groups and members of Congress are pressing for a solution prior to the expiration of the current continuing resolution, a late-February/early March timeline is probably more realistic. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops recently issued background and recommendations for use in raising the issue with members of Congress – <a href="http://www.usccb.org/about/justice-peace-and-human-development/catholic-social-ministry-gathering/upload/Backgrounder-on-DACA-2018-02.pdf">http://www.usccb.org/about/justice-peace-and-human-development/catholic-social-ministry-gathering/upload/Backgrounder-on-DACA-2018-02.pdf</a> .
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