

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Week of April 6, 2020

of Catholic Health Care

## State Issues

<p>Special Budget Subcommittee on COVID-19 Response</p>	<p>On Thursday, Senate Pro Tem Toni Atkins and Speaker Anthony Rendon announced that the Senate and Assembly will hold oversight hearings to review how the Administration is spending the funds to address the COVID-19 response. They plan to hold hearings in the next two weeks, prior to their anticipated full return to the Capitol. The Legislative leaders stated they believe the Governor is “working diligently on the behalf of Californians” but they expect to fulfill the oversight role they “promised the people of California.” Based on the language of the press release, it appears that each house will have separate hearings. While no specific details are outlined, the leaders note that these hearings will have to work somewhat differently in order to ensure public participation while ensuring physical distancing. More details will be available soon. The Senate release can be found at: <a href="https://sd39.senate.ca.gov/news/20200409-senate-leader-atkins-creates-subcommittee-state%E2%80%99s-covid-19-response-first-hearing">https://sd39.senate.ca.gov/news/20200409-senate-leader-atkins-creates-subcommittee-state%E2%80%99s-covid-19-response-first-hearing</a></p>
<p>Assembly Budget Process Announced</p>	<p>On Tuesday, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Budget , Assemblymember Phil Ting, posted a notice outlining what the Committee’s process might look like going forward – <a href="https://abgt.assembly.ca.gov/sites/abgt.assembly.ca.gov/files/Budget%20Update.pdf">https://abgt.assembly.ca.gov/sites/abgt.assembly.ca.gov/files/Budget%20Update.pdf</a></p>
<p>Assembly Health Committee Process Announced</p>	<p>Late last Friday, Dr. Jim Wood (D-Healdsburg), chair of the Assembly Health Committee, released a memo outlining his expectations for his committee moving forward. He indicated that he believes that it is necessary for the Legislature and his Committee to refocus priorities on California’s COVID-19 response. He made the decision to not move many of his bills this year. He did not indicate which bills he is considering moving and which he is holding back. He asked his colleagues who have bills before the Assembly Health Committee “to only pursue those that are critically necessary to address the current pandemic....” He encouraged members to reintroduce next year any bill that creates a new program or will result in new state spending. In the coming days, we hope to learn more about which bills may continue to move and which bills may simply be reintroduced next year.</p>

## Federal Issues

<p>No Deal on Interim Supplemental</p>	<p>The Senate adjourned on Thursday without a deal to deliver coronavirus aid as Democrats and Republicans rejected each other's bids for new spending. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell tried to approve \$250 billion in new money for small businesses that Republicans argue is urgently needed. And Senator Chris Van Hollen presented Democrats' own plan to spend an additional \$250 billion on hospitals and local governments that they want coupled with the small business aid. Each Senator tried to pass his measure by unanimous consent but was blocked by the other. Without unanimous agreement while in recess, Congress will return its focus to crafting a larger, fourth COVID-19 supplemental tentatively scheduled to be considered the week of April 20.</p>
--	---

(more)

## COVID-19 Information and Resources

*There is much information and many resources emerging on the coronavirus (COVID-19). This section will focus on the ethical issues and concerns in treating patients, as well as provide additional links to resources that may be helpful to those in our communities and parishes.*

Bioethics in the  
Time of the  
Coronavirus

On Thursday, the Supportive Care Coalition held its webinar on “Bioethics in the Time of the Coronavirus.” This excellent presentation by Daniel Sulmasy, MD, PhD, reviewed the basic science, epidemiology, clinical issues, ethical principles, virtues and other important information related to COVID-19. The recording can be found on its COVID Resource page at: <https://supportivecarecoalition.org/resources-blog/2020/3/19/covid-19-resources>.

For more information please contact Lori Dangberg at 1215 K Street, Suite 2000 ▪ Sacramento, CA 95814  
Direct line: 916.552.2633 or fax: 916.552.7652 ▪ e-mail: [ldangberg@thealliance.net](mailto:ldangberg@thealliance.net)