

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Week of January 23, 2023

State Issues

New Bill
Introduction
Deadlines

Last Friday was the deadline for Legislators to get bill language into Legislative Counsel for drafting, and new bills are just now coming into print. Following is a brief overview on some of the health-related bills of interest to the Catholic health ministry. We are expecting hundreds of bills to come into print in the next few weeks, with a February 17 deadline for bills to be introduced. Many more bills of interest are pending. Because of the extraordinary number of new members, we also are expecting an unusual number of spot bills to come into print. Spot bills are placeholders where more substantive policy language will be amended into the bill before the first policy committee hearing.

AB 4 (Arambula): Covered California Expansion. Would expand access to Covered California health plans to all Californians, regardless of immigration status.

AB 40 (Rodriguez): Emergency Medical Services. Would set statewide standards for ambulance patient off load times at hospital emergency rooms.

AB 85 (Weber): Social Determinants of Health: Screening and Outreach. Would require health plans, including Medi-Cal, to cover screening and outreach related to the social determinants of health.

AB 232 (Aguiar Curry). Temporary practice allowances. Would allow certain behavioral health providers to practice in California if they are licensed in other states, within certain parameters.

AB 242 (Wood) Critical access hospital employment: Would extend the current program that allows certain small rural hospitals to directly hire physicians.

AB 254 (Bauer-Kahan) Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (CMIA): reproductive health. Would apply the parameters of the CMIA to include reproductive health information.

AB 269 (Berman): Covid 19 testing. Would authorize an entity, as defined, to perform analysis of samples to test for COVID if they meet clinical laboratory improvement amendments for high complexity testing.

AB 282 (Aguiar Curry) Psychologists: licensure: Would expedite licensure timelines for psychologists by allowing candidates with certain qualifications eligible to take any and all exams needed for licensure.

(more)

<p>New Bill Introduction Deadlines (continued)</p>	<p>AB 315 (Bauer-Kahan): False advertising: abortion. Would prohibit a person doing business in California who is performing, has performed, or intends to perform a pregnancy-related service from advertising using a false or misleading statement related to the person’s provision, or lack of provision, of abortion.</p> <p>SB 11 (Menjivar): CSU: mental health contracting. Would prohibit the CSU system from contracting out for the provision of mental health services.</p> <p>SB 35 (Umberg) CARE Court. Spot bill for updates to the Care Court program authorized last year.</p> <p>SB 43 (Eggman): Behavioral health. Spot bill for Eggman’s ongoing work on access to behavioral health services.</p> <p>SB 70 (Weiner): Prescription drug coverage: Would prohibit a health plan from limiting or excluding coverage of a dose of a drug or dosage form, or for a medication prescribed for off-label use. The bill would prohibit a health plan from requiring additional cost sharing not already imposed for a drug that was previously approved for coverage.</p> <p>SB 90 (Wiener): Health care coverage: insulin affordability. By January 2024, would prohibit health plans from requiring copayment for a supply of insulin to exceed \$35 for a 30-day supply, except for a high deductible plan.</p> <p>SB 232 (Niello): Mental health services: gravely disabled. Would define individuals as gravely disabled if they are as a result of a mental health disorder, incapable of making informed decisions about, or providing for, their own basic personal needs for food, clothing, shelter, or medical care without significant supervision.</p> <p>SB 238 (Weiner): Health care: independent medical review. Requires a health plan’s denial/modification/delay of a disputed health care service to be automatically submitted to the relevant Independent Medical Review System for enrollees under 21.</p>
<p>Webinar on State Budget and New Legislators</p>	<p>The California Endowment is hosting a webinar on January 31, 2023, at 10:00 am that will provide an overview of budget items that impact health, equity, and communities across California. They also plan to cover the policy outlook for the coming year and the new class of legislators.</p> <p>You can access the webinar here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6el-9uac2UY</p>

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