

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Week of March 27, 2023

## State Issues

Legislative Update	<p>The Legislature has adjourned for its Spring Recess. Bills have been amended and are in the process of being set for hearing. A few of the key bills include:</p> <p><b>AB 1091 (Wood): AG authority over health care transactions.</b> This bill was the 2023 version of a bill that has been introduced and that failed to progress every year for the last few years. It would have given the state Attorney General increased authority of health care transactions. Before it was set for its first hearing, Dr. Wood decided to hold his bill this year and stated it was because of staff workload issues. While there was a much more organized “support” coalition than in years past, the opposition was poised again to work to stop the bill.</p> <p><b>AB 525 (Durazo): minimum wage for health care workers.</b> This bill will set a statewide minimum wage of \$25 per hour, and set non-hourly worker salaries to twice that, on an ongoing basis. SB 525 would apply to nurses, caregivers, housekeepers, security guards, clerical workers, food preparers, groundskeepers, medical coders, call center and warehouse workers, and even gift shop workers, so long as the service they provide directly or indirectly supports patient care. Surprisingly this week, the California Nurses Association came out in opposition to the bill, and they are seeking an amendment to remove nurses from the bill. This reflects the animosity between CNA and SEIU, who continue to fight for union members within the health care field. The bill is set for hearing on April 12.</p> <p><b>AB 666 (Arambula): nonprofit hospital community benefit.</b> This long-expected bill was finally amended and quickly set for hearing on April 18. It will grant more authority to Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) and local health departments to define and direct nonprofit hospital community benefit programs. The bill also increases the fines for hospitals that do not submit a plan or fail to act on their plan.</p> <p><b>SB 770 (Weiner): unified health care financing.</b> Instead of more sweeping bills we’ve seen in years’ past, this bill would take a more incremental approach to getting California to a single payer health care system. It would begin the process of seeking a waiver from the federal government to allow Medicaid and Medicare funds to be used for a first-in-the-nation single payer healthcare system. The bill outlines what the waiver should include, creates a workgroup and mandates reports to the Legislature, and a strict timeline over several years.</p>
Office of Health Care Affordability	<p>The Office of Health Care Affordability held its first public meeting last week. A full video of the meeting, including public testimony, has been posted – you can access the video <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(more)</i></p>

Office of Health Care Affordability <i>(continued)</i>	The Board is tasked with setting statewide and sector-specific spending targets, appointing a Health Care Affordability Advisory Committee, and approving key benchmarks, including alternative payment model adoption and the share of spending dedicated to primary care and behavioral health, among other responsibilities. You can access the <a href="#">agenda</a> , <a href="#">meeting presentation</a> , and <a href="#">Board Manual</a> .
Coalition for Compassionate Care Summit	The Coalition for Compassionate Care of California is holding its Annual Summit on May 18-19 at the Hyatt Regency in Orange County. As a key supporter of the Coalition, all Alliance member health system staff can register at the discounted rate – <b><i>see attached flyer</i></b> . The Summit will include the latest information from thought leaders on the state of serious illness care in California and opportunities to connect with colleagues and friends in breakout sessions and group discussions.

For more information, please contact Lori Dangberg at 1215 K Street, Suite 2000 ■ Sacramento, CA 95814  
916.591.3991 or e-mail: [ldangberg@thealliance.net](mailto:ldangberg@thealliance.net)



## Attend California's Premier Palliative Care Conference And Bring Your Team!

As an employee of an Alliance of Catholic Health Care health system or hospital, you and your entire staff are entitled to the discounted member registration rate for Coalition for Compassionate Care of California's 15th Annual Palliative Care Summit, ***Listening, Learning & Leading: Shaping the Future of Serious Illness Care***, presented in-person on May 18 and 19 at Hyatt Regency Orange County – a savings of \$200 per registration!

The Summit will include the latest information from thought leaders on the state of serious illness care in California and opportunities to connect with colleagues and friends in breakout sessions and group discussions.

Keynote/General Session presentations include:

- *Every Deep Drawn Breath*, presented by **E. Wesley Ely, MD**, internist, pulmonologist, critical care physician, and author
- *Grief on the Front Lines*, presented by **Rachel Jones**, author and journalist
- *Building Our Future: Envisioning the Next Stage of Development for Palliative Care in California*, presented by **Kate Meyers, MPP**, California Health Care Foundation
- *How Our Work Connects Up: CCCC in a Statewide and National Landscape*, presented by **Jennifer Moore Ballentine, MA**, CEO, Coalition for Compassionate Care of California

PLUS!

- 24 breakout sessions including a pediatric palliative care track
- Interactive sessions on special topics from psychedelic-assisted therapy to chair yoga
- Poster session and reception with sponsors and industry partners

View the entire Summit schedule [here](#).

Professional continuing education credits (CMEs/CEs) are available for physicians, PAs, nurses, social workers, and chaplains.

Register to attend as a member on our [website](#), or contact Kara Green at [kgreen@coalitionccc.org](mailto:kgreen@coalitionccc.org) or 916-489-2222 to register your whole team with one invoice.