HEALTH CONSUMER BILLS FOR THE 2016 SESSION

Health Access Sponsored, Co-Sponsored and Priority Bills (*updated 8/23/2016*)

Bill (Author)	Description	Status
AB 72 (Bonta, Bonilla, Dahle, Gonzalez Maienschein, and Wood)	**Stop Surprise Bills from Out-of-Network Providers:** protects patients from "surprise" bills from out-of-network providers when patients use an in-network facility. The bill would also ensure that such a consumer only has to pay in-network cost-sharing. Sponsored by Health Access and California Labor Federation. *See fact sheet*	Senate Floor
SB 10 (Lara)	**Health4All:** expands health care coverage to all Californians, regardless of immigration status, by authorizing the state to apply for a federal waiver that would allow undocumented immigrants to buy coverage through Covered California using their own money. *See fact sheet*	Signed by Governor
SB 908 (Hernandez)	**Notice of Unreasonable Rates:** requires individuals and small business owners to be notified if the premium for a plan they choose is "unreasonable" or "unjustified" and be given the opportunity to find a plan with a reasonable rate. Sponsored by Health Access. *See fact sheet*	Senate Concurrence
SB 923 (Hernandez)	**Cost-Sharing Rules:** prevents plans from changing any cost-sharing requirements during the plan year or policy year, except when required by a change in state or federal law.	To Governor
SB 1010 (Hernandez)	**Transparency in Drug Prices:** as amended adds detailed, publicly available information on prescription drug costs to current rate review for employers with more than 100 employees. Also provides notice of increases in prescription drug costs to state purchasers, including CalPERS, the Medi-Cal program, Corrections, and the Department of General Services. Sponsored by Health Access.	Unfavorably amended in Assembly Appropriations Committee, will not move forward
SB 1135 (Monning)	**Notice of Rights to Timely Access, Language Access and How to Complain:** requires health plans and insurers to notify consumers and health care providers about patients' right to timely care and language assistance.. Sponsored by Health Access. *See fact sheet*	Senate Concurrence

Priority Bills on Medi-Cal and Covered California

Bill (Author)	Description	Status
AB 1568 (Bonta/Atkins)	**1115 Waiver**: implements the recently approved Medi-Cal 2020 providing California with more than $6.2 billion in new federal funding through programs that will shift the focus away from hospital-based and inpatient care, towards outpatient, primary and preventative care.	Signed by Governor
AB 1696 (Holden)	**Tobacco Cessation Programs:** would require Medi-Cal to cover tobacco cessation services more extensively than done under current Medi-Cal policy.	Assembly Concurrence
AB 2077 (Burke/Bonilla)	**Medi-Cal Transitions to Covered California:** will help facilitate transitions from those Californians whose eligibility fluctuates between Medi-Cal and Covered California because of changes in income. Sponsored by Western Center on Law and Poverty.	Senate Floor
AB 2394 (Garcia)	**Medi-Cal Nonmedical Transportation:** clarifies that accessible nonmedical transportation is a covered Medi-Cal benefit for beneficiaries needing roundtrip transportation to obtain covered Medi-Cal services.	Assembly Concurrence
SB 815 (Hernandez)	**1115 Waiver**: implements the recently approved Medi-Cal 2020 providing California with more than $6.2 billion in new federal funding through programs that will shift the focus away from hospital-based and inpatient care, towards outpatient, primary and preventative care.	Signed by Governor
SB 1339 (Monning)	**Inter-county Transfers:** makes it easier for recipients of public assistance programs, including Medi-Cal, to continue receiving benefits and health care services when they move from one county to another within California.	Senate Concurrence
SB 1418 (Lara)	**Expanding Medi-Cal to all Eligible Californians**: extends eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal benefits to individuals 19 years of age or older, regardless of immigration status.	Senate Health

Transparency

Bill (Author)	Description	Status
SB 1159 (Hernandez)	**Cost/Quality Database**: would create an advisory committee that would consist of health care stakeholders, and would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to arrange an annual report on containing the cost of health care services and coverage. *Support if amended.*	Assembly Floor
SB 1365 (Hernandez)	**Outpatient Setting Hospital Fees**: requires if care is provided in an outpatient setting, provider would be required to give notice of changes to outpatient settings. Sponsored by the Teamsters.	Assembly Floor

To track current status and location of bill, click on bill link, then click "Status." For regular updates & analysis, follow our blog.

Access

Bill (Author)	Description	Status
AB 1795 (Atkins)	**Access to Services that Detect and Treat Breast Cancer**: ensures that women will receive coverage for treatment for services under the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program (BCCTP) for the duration of the period of treatment, and expands eligibility for breast cancer screening under the Every Woman Counts (EWC) program to symptomatic women under the age of 40.	Assembly Concurrence
AB 1849 (Gibson)	**Coverage for Foster Youth:** reduced barriers to foster youth receiving the extended health coverage they are entitled to.	Assembly Concurrence
AB 2024 (Wood)	**Critical Access Hospitals:** improves access to health care in California's rural communities by allowing rural hospitals designated by the federal government as "critical access hospitals' to directly employ physicians and bill for their services.	Senate Floor
AB 2308 (R. Hernandez)	**Enrollment Assistance:** requires CSU and community colleges to screen every student for health insurance coverage and provide enrollment assistance through partnerships with local organizations. Sponsored by CCHI.	Assembly Concurrence
SB 923 (Hernandez)	**Cost-Sharing Rules:** prevents plans from changing any cost-sharing requirements during the plan year or policy year, except when required by a change in state or federal law.	To Governor
SB 999 (Pavley)	**Hormonal Contraceptive Prescriptions**: would allow pharmacists to prescribe a 12-month supply of hormonal contraceptives.	Assembly Floor
SB 1466 (Mitchell)	**Expand Access to Mental Health Services for Children in Medi-Cal:** improves access to mental health care for foster youth by requiring existing screenings under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Program to include a screening for trauma.	Assembly Floor

Health Equity

AB 1726 (Bonta)	**Data Collection:** Requires specified entities, when collecting demographic data on ancestry or ethnic origin, to disaggregate those data for specified Native Hawaiian (NH) and Asian and Pacific Islander (API) groups.	Senate Floor
AB 1823 (Bonilla)	**Access to Clinical Trials:** increases access to clinical trials among women, low-income people, and people of color.	Senate Floor
AB 2424 (Gomez)	**Funding for Health Inequity and Disparities:** create the Community-based Health Improvement and Innovation Fund to address health inequity and disparities.	Held in Senate Appropriations
SB 1139 (Lara)	**Health Profession Education Grants and Loans:** provides grants and scholarships from the Health Professions Education Foundation to undocumented students seeking a health profession. Sponsored by CPEHN.	Senate Concurrence

Prescription Drugs

Bill (Author)	Description	Status
AB 1831 (Low)	**Refills for Eye Drops:** would allow patients to get early refills of eye drops.	Assembly Concurrence

To track current status and location of bill, click on bill link, then click "Status." For regular updates & analysis, follow our blog.