



HEALTH CONSUMER BILLS FOR THE 2016 SESSION

▶ Health Access Sponsored or Co-Sponsored Bills (updated 4/7/2016)

Bill (Author)	Description	Status
AB 533 (Bonta)	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. See fact sheet	Assembly Concurrence
SB 10 (Lara)	Health4All: expands health care coverage to all Californians, regardless of immigration status, by expanding full-scope Medi-Cal to all adults who are income-eligible. Also requires 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	Assembly Rules
AB 2436 (R Hernandez)	Transparency in Prescription Drug Costs: requires health plans and insurers to provide consumers with information about the cost of their prescription drugs, specifically the cost to the patient through their co-pay, co-insurance or other cost-sharing; the amount paid by the health plan or insurer for the prescription drug and; the cost of the drug in Canada, Germany and Mexico, three countries that have various approaches to drug pricing compared to the United States. Sponsored by Health Access. See fact sheet	Assembly Health Hearing 4/12/16
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. See fact sheet	Senate Appropriations
SB 997 (Lara)	Undocumented Children Covered by Kaiser: requires the Department of Health Care Services to allow undocumented children who are currently enrolled in the Kaiser Permanente Child Health Program and who are eligible for Medi-Cal to maintain their current Kaiser coverage as they transition to full-scoop Medi-Cal. See fact sheet	Senate Health Hearing 4/13/16
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. Also requires insurers to include the toll-free number for the consumer call centers of the Department of Managed Health Care and the California Department of Insurance on consumers’ insurance cards. See fact sheet	Senate Appropriations

► Priority Bills on Medi-Cal and Covered California

Bill (Author)	Description	Status
AB 1568 (Bonta/Atkins)	1115 Waiver: would direct DHCS to implement a waiver or demonstration project that includes a delivery system transformation and alignment incentive program for designated public hospital systems and district municipal hospitals.	Assembly Health Hearing 4/19/16
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 Appropriations
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.	Assembly Health
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 Health Hearing 4/12/16
AB 2670 (R. Hernandez)	Medi-Cal CAHPS Survey: requires DHCS to require Medi-Cal managed care plans to complete CAHPS surveys annual rather than every three years and provide it in the threshold languages. Sponsored by CPEHN.	Assembly Health Hearing 4/12/16

► Transparency

Bill (Author)	Description	Status
AB 2467 (Gomez)	Hospital Executive Compensation: would require covered hospitals and other medical entities to submit yearly reports to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development regarding executives' salaries for every executive whose annual compensation exceeds \$450,000/year. Sponsored by SEIU State Council.	Assembly Health Hearing 4/19/16
AB 2711 (Chiu)	Drug Prices of State Programs: requires the Department of General Services to report on the effectiveness of the California Pharmaceutical Purchasing Collaborative in reducing prescription drug prices paid by state programs, other than the Medi-Cal program.	Assembly Appropriations
SB 1365 (Hernandez)	Outpatient Setting Hospital Fees: requires if care is provided in an outpatient setting, the provider cannot charge a fee for hospital care. Sponsored by the Teamsters.	Senate Health Hearing 4/20/16



► **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 Appropriations
AB 1823 (Bonilla)	Access to Clinical Trials: increases access to clinical trials among women, low-income people, and people of color.	Assembly Higher Ed Hearing 4/19/16
AB 1849 (Gibson)	Coverage for Foster Youth: reduced barriers to foster youth receiving the extended health coverage they are entitled to.	Assembly Appropriations
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.	Asm Business and Professions Hearing 4/19/16
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.	Asm Appropriations Hearing 4/12/16
SB 923 (E. Hernandez)	Cost-Sharing Rules: prevents plans from changing any cost-sharing requirements during the plan year or policy year, except then required by a change in state or federal law.	Senate Appropriations
SB 999 (Pavley)	Hormonal Contraceptive Prescriptions: would allow pharmacists to prescribe a 12-month supply of hormonal contraceptives.	Senate Health Hearing 4/13/16
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 Health Hearing 4/13/16
SB 1159 (E. Hernandez)	OPA Keep Record of Requests: requires the Office of the Patient Advocate to log and report number of call answered within 30 seconds, number of abandoned calls and number of busy messages sent to consumers.	Senate Health Hearing 4/13/16
SB 1361 (Nielsen)	Eyeglasses for Medi-Cal beneficiaries: would restore coverage of one pair of eyeglasses provided every two years to adult Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are unable to meet or exceed the driver's license vision standards established by the DMV.	Senate Health
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.	Senate Human Services

► Prescription Drugs

Bill (Author)	Description	Status
AB 1831 (Low)	Refills for Eye Drops: would allow patients to get early refills of eye drops.	Assembly Health Hearing 4/19/16
AB 1977 (Wood/Waldron)	Abuse Deterrent Opioid Analgesics: requires an individual or group health care service plan or disability insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed after January 1, to provide coverage on its formulary, drug list, or other lists of similar construct for at least one abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drug product per opioid analgesic active ingredient. <i>Support if amended.</i>	Assembly Health Hearing 4/12/16
AB 2400 (Nazarian)	Appeals Process for Formulary Drugs: requires plans and insurers to have three-day grievance process for both formulary and nonformulary prescription drugs. <i>Support if amended.</i>	Assembly Appropriations
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.	Senate Health Hearing 4/13/16

