

Please PUT ON YOUR ORGANIZATION'S LETTERHEAD
Sample Support Letter – Assembly Bill 339 (Gordon)

Submit: By email to leg.unit@gov.ca.gov

Send a copy to: ellen.hou@asm.ca.gov and sseyoum@health-access.org

DATE ASAP

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814
Via Fax: (916) 558-3177

AB 339 (Gordon): SUPPORT

Dear Governor Brown:

[Insert name of your organization] respectfully seeks your signature of AB 339 (Gordon) which would cap cost sharing for prescription drugs and set standards for prescription drug coverage, building on existing federal law and guidance, existing state law and guidance, and policy developed by Covered California.

Existing law includes an annual-out-of-pocket maximum of \$6,600 for an individual, which increases annually as health care costs rise. Patients with serious illnesses may pay as much as \$6,600 for a single prescription for a single drug. AB 339 (Gordon) caps cost-sharing for a 30 day supply of a single drug at \$250 for coverage with an actuarial value of 70% or higher, and \$500 for bronze level products.

Other important consumer protections in AB339 include:

- A requirement that health plans cover medically necessary drugs.
- Protections to prevent health plans from placing all or most drugs to treat a specific condition on the highest cost tiers of a drug formulary.
- Definition of prescription drug coverage tiers for the individual and small employer market, consistent with the policy adopted by Covered California.
- A requirement that health plans offer single tablet drug treatments which are medically necessary for the treatment of AIDS/HIV.
- Requirements on pharmaceutical and therapeutics committees from federal guidance.
- A requirement from federal guidance that health plans and insurers allow access to retail pharmacies for consumers with coverage in the individual and small employer markets.

Recent amendments provide for a four year sunset on the cost sharing caps and definition of prescription drug coverage tiers.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your signature of AB339 (Gordon).

Sincerely,

[NAME]

Organization

CC: Assemblymember Richard Gordon, Author
Secretary Diana Dooley, Health and Human Services Agency
Donna Campbell, Office of the Governor, Legislative Unit
Sawait Hezchias-Seyoum, Health Access, Sponsor