



HEALTH ACCESS CALIFORNIA is the statewide health care consumer advocacy coalition, advocating for quality, affordable health care for all Californians. We represent consumers in the legislature, at administrative and regulatory agencies, in the media, and at public forums. For more information, please visit www.health-access.org.

2016 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

January 2017

INTRODUCTION

For 30 years, Health Access California has been the leading voice on behalf of patients and the public on critical health policy issues at the State Capitol. As the statewide health care consumer advocacy coalition, Health Access California provides an effective counterpoint to the health industry, making sure that health insurers, hospitals, doctors, and drug companies put patients before profits. We bring our policy expertise, grassroots power, and coalition strength to win reforms to improve the health system on which we all rely. We have sponsored legislation to expand access to coverage and care, strengthen consumer protections, control health care costs and reform the health system. Our victories include the HMO Patient Bill of Rights, Hospital Fair Pricing Act, regulations ensuring patients have timely access to care, and the dozens of bills implementing and improving upon the Affordable Care Act in California. Each year, we testify before the California legislature and appear before state agencies from Covered California to the Medi-Cal program to the Department of Managed Health Care and more on dozens of bills and administrative actions that affect California's health care consumers.

This scorecard highlights how California legislators voted during the 2016 legislative session on critical legislation that impacts consumers, patients, communities, and the public interest. While the scorecard is not a comprehensive review of every health bill considered or a complete picture of a legislator's record on health policy, each vote makes a difference in whether a bill passes and has a real impact on the health and economic security of all Californians. The bills included in the 2016 Legislative Scorecard impacts all Californians—from the millions of people with coverage at risk of facing unjustified rate hikes or surprise medical bills, to some of the 1.35 million undocumented Californians who currently lack health coverage.

Some critical actions on bills cannot be captured in a Legislative Scorecard. For example, consumers have struggled with the escalating cost of prescription drugs, and the controversy over the cost of Epipens in 2016 is one example of how these unchecked price hikes are a matter of life and death for consumers who rely on Epipens to survive. We sponsored SB 1010 (Hernandez), which would have held prescription drug companies to the same standards of notice and disclosure that is required of other segments of the health industry. SB 1010 would have required prescription drug companies to give a 30-day notice before increasing the price of a drug more than 10% or \$10,000, and provide the justification for the increase. The Assembly Appropriations Committee eviscerated the bill by raising the 10% threshold to 25% (thereby eliminating over 90% of drug price increases), removing the requirement that drug companies justify the price increase, and putting a 4-year sunset on the bill. As a result of these amendments, the author decided to pull SB 1010. While this scorecard is not able to quantify the Assembly Appropriations Committee's actions, it does capture the close votes that preceded it. The scorecard highlights the importance of every vote, to Californians who want to fight the rising cost of prescription drugs, as well as to legislators who wish to improve their record on consumer protection legislation.

During the 2016 legislative session, Health Access California led efforts to stop surprise medical bills and other unfair out-of-pocket costs, partnered with other allies to expand coverage to all Californians regardless of immigration status, improve public health through tobacco control, and increase transparency and consumer awareness of their rights. These bills reflect the high profile health policy debates in the state legislature that have the direct impact on health care consumers.

2016 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

Health Access California Sponsored Legislation on Unfair Out-of-Pocket Costs

- [AB 72](#) (Bonta, Bonilla, Dahle, Gonzalez, Maienschein, Santiago, and Wood) protects patients from “surprise” bills from out-of-network providers when patients go to an in-network facility. Status: SIGNED by the Governor.
- [SB 908](#) (Hernandez) gives individuals and small business owners the chance to find a different health plan if their premium increases have been found to be “unreasonable” or “unjustified” by state regulators. Status: SIGNED by the Governor.
- [SB 923](#) (Hernandez) closes a loophole so that co-pays, deductibles, and other cost sharing cannot be raised in the middle of the plan year. Status: SIGNED by the Governor.
- [SB 1135](#) (Monning) requires health plans and insurers to notify consumers and health care providers about patients’ right to timely access of care and language assistance. Status: SIGNED by the Governor.
- [SB 1010](#) (Hernandez) provides notice and disclosure on rising prescription drug costs. Status: INACTIVE FILE AFTER UNFAVORABLE AMENDMENTS.

Other Priority Legislation in the Scorecard

- [SB 10](#) (Lara) expands health care coverage to all Californians, regardless of immigration status, by permitting the state to apply for a federal waiver that would allow undocumented immigrants to buy coverage through Covered California using their own money. Status: SIGNED by the Governor.
- [ABx2-7](#) (Stone) regulates smoking in the workplace. Status: SIGNED by the Governor.
- [ABx2-9](#) (Thurmond) expands eligibility for funding from the tobacco use prevention programs by including charter schools. Status: SIGNED by the Governor.
- [SBx2-5](#) (Leno) regulates electronic cigarettes and other electronic devices that deliver nicotine or other vaporized liquids as a tobacco product. Status: SIGNED by the Governor.
- [SBx2-7](#) (Hernandez) increases the minimum age to purchase or consume tobacco from 18 to 21. Status: SIGNED by the Governor.

We hope our scorecard adds another dimension to assessing Legislators’ track record when viewed alongside scorecards from our coalition allies, including organizations representing seniors, people with disabilities, labor, women, immigrants, consumers, LGBT people, and other communities. Our scorecard is not intended to be the sole metric for evaluating legislators on health care. Some legislators would have fared better or worse in past years with a different mix of issues before them. Some legislators have shown additional leadership in sponsoring or helping move consumer-friendly legislation through the legislative process. Some bills never faced a vote so this scorecard does not capture behind-the-scenes opposition by some legislators. Many bills that are bad for consumers were never introduced as legislation because of the advocacy done by Health Access and our allies. Given that we were able to stop bad legislation early in the process, we did not include those bills in the scorecard. Even with these caveats, this scorecard provides a useful snapshot of which legislators sided with health care consumers by supporting key legislation that improves the health system on which we all rely.

We thank those legislators who supported our efforts and urge reconsideration of the bills that did not advance this year. We look forward to working with all members of the Legislature in 2017 to continue the work of ensuring that all Californians have access to quality, affordable health care.

2016 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

2016 ASSEMBLY SCORECARD			
Assembly Member	Party	Votes Cast With Health Access	% Votes Cast with Health Access
Arambula	D	5 out of 5	100%
Atkins	D	9 out of 9	*100%
Bloom	D	9 out of 9	100%
Bonilla	D	15 out of 15	100%
Bonta	D	9 out of 9	*100%
Brown	D	9 out of 9	100%
Calderon	D	9 out of 9	100%
Campos	D	15 out of 15	100%
Chau	D	9 out of 9	*100%
Chiu	D	15 out of 15	*100%
Chu	D	9 out of 9	100%
Cooley	D	8 out of 8	100%
Cooper	D	9 out of 9	100%
Dababneh	D	9 out of 9	100%
Dodd	D	9 out of 9	100%
Eggman	D	9 out of 9	*100%
Frazier	D	5 out of 5	100%
Garcia, C	D	9 out of 9	100%
Garcia, E	D	9 out of 9	100%
Gipson	D	9 out of 9	100%
Gonzalez	D	9 out of 9	100%
Gordon	D	10 out of 10	100%
Hernandez. R	D	12 out of 12	100%
Irwin	D	9 out of 9	100%
Jones-Sawyer	D	9 out of 9	100%
Levine	D	9 out of 9	100%
Lopez	D	9 out of 9	*100%
Low	D	9 out of 9	100%
McCarty	D	12 out of 12	100%
Medina	D	9 out of 9	100%
Mullin	D	9 out of 9	100%
Nazarian	D	15 out of 15	*100%
O'Donnell	D	9 out of 9	100%
Quirk	D	9 out of 9	100%
Rendon	D	9 out of 9	*100%
Rodriguez	D	15 out of 15	*100%
Santiago	D	15 out of 15	*100%
Stone	D	9 out of 9	*100%
Thurmond	D	12 out of 12	100%
Ting	D	9 out of 9	100%
Weber	D	9 out of 9	*100%
Williams	D	9 out of 9	100%

2016 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

Wood	D	15 out of 15	100%
Burke	D	14 out of 15	93%
Gomez	D	14 out of 15	93%
Alejo	D	8 out of 9	89%
Baker	R	8 out of 9	89%
Ridley-Thomas	D	12 out of 15	80%
Daly	D	7 out of 9	78%
Gatto	D	7 out of 9	78%
Holden	D	7 out of 9	78%
Salas	D	7 out of 9	78%
Hadley	R	7 out of 9	78%
Gray	D	6 out of 8	75%
Achadjian	R	5 out of 9	56%
Chang	R	5 out of 9	56%
Maienschein	R	7 out of 15	47%
Waldron	R	5 out of 11	45%
Linder	R	4 out of 9	44%
Grove	R	2 out of 5	40%
Lackey	R	6 out of 15	40%
Allen	R	3 out of 9	33%
Dahle	R	3 out of 9	33%
Kim	R	3 out of 9	33%
Mayes	R	3 out of 9	33%
Obernolte	R	3 out of 9	33%
Steinorth	R	5 out of 15	33%
Patterson	R	4 out of 15	27%
Melendez	R	2 out of 8	25%
Bigelow	R	2 out of 9	22%
Brough	R	2 out of 9	22%
Gallagher	R	2 out of 9	22%
Jones	R	2 out of 9	22%
Mathis	R	2 out of 9	22%
Wagner	R	2 out of 9	22%
Wilk	R	2 out of 9	22%
Olsen	R	3 out of 14	21%
Chavez	R	1 out of 8	13%
Gaines	R	1 out of 9	11%
Harper	R	1 out of 9	11%

Key

* = Cast 100% of votes with Health Access California in 2015

2016 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

2016 SENATE SCORECARD			
Senator	Party	Votes Cast with Health Access	% Votes Cast with Health Access
Allen	D	13 out of 13	*100%
Beall	D	13 out of 13	*100%
Block	D	13 out of 13	*100%
De Leon	D	13 out of 13	100%
Hall	D	17 out of 17	*100%
Hancock	D	12 out of 12	*100%
Hernandez	D	18 out of 18	*100%
Hueso	D	13 out of 13	*100%
Jackson	D	13 out of 13	100%
Lara	D	13 out of 13	100%
Leno	D	13 out of 13	*100%
Leyva	D	13 out of 13	*100%
Liu	D	13 out of 13	*100%
McGuire	D	13 out of 13	100%
Mitchell	D	18 out of 18	100%
Monning	D	18 out of 18	*100%
Pavley	D	13 out of 13	*100%
Wieckowski	D	13 out of 13	*100%
Wolk	D	17 out of 17	100%
Roth	D	17 out of 18	94%
Hill	D	12 out of 13	92%
Mendoza	D	12 out of 13	92%
Hertzberg	D	11 out of 12	92%
Pan	D	16 out of 18	89%
Glazer	D	11 out of 13	85%
Cannella	R	8 out of 13	62%
Vidak	R	7 out of 13	54%
Galgiani	D	6 out of 13	46%
Fuller	R	4 out of 13	31%
Stone	R	4 out of 13	31%
Berryhill	R	3 out of 13	23%
Huff	R	2 out of 9	22%
Nguyen	R	4 out of 18	22%
Nielson	R	2 out of 18	11%
Bates	R	1 out of 13	8%
Gaines	R	1 out of 13	8%
Morrell	R	1 out of 13	8%
Anderson	R	0 out of 13	0%
Moorlach	R	0 out of 13	0%
Runner	R	0 out of 4	0%

Key
* = Cast 100% of votes with Health Access California in 2015