SB 357 (Correa) Is Signed By Governor; PCI Pilot Program

August 28, 2013: TCA-ACC took an active role in supporting SB 357 this year and our efforts were rewarded with the signature of the Governor this afternoon!

SB 357 addresses a drafting error in SB 891 (Correa) from 2008 which established the Elective Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) pilot program. The pilot program authorizes six California hospitals licensed to provide cardiac catheterization services, but not cardiac surgery services, to perform scheduled, elective percutaneous coronary intervention ("PCI"), provided the hospitals meet rigorous selection criteria.

Dr. Bommer provided significant help to the author’s office on SB 357 to insure the bill would allow the pilot hospitals to continue with the pilot program while the data on the performance of the pilot will be evaluated by the Legislature next year.

Based on the success of the pilot program to date, our hope is next year the Legislature will allow any hospital in California to perform scheduled PCI procedures without having on site surgical backup. CA-ACC is already working with the California Hospital Association on a plan to support a bill next year to allow hospitals to perform scheduled PCI procedures without having on site surgical backup.