



California
CHAPTER

LEGISLATIVE REPORT #305

Appropriations Committees Meet and Vote on Bills - Multiple Bills Held

May 16, 2019: We are closing in on the half-way mark for this legislative year. The next deadline is for the Appropriations Committees to hear and report all bills to the Floor prior to this Friday. This morning, both the Assembly and Senate Appropriations Committees went through the bills placed on their "Suspense Files" to announce the outcomes. As a reminder the "Suspense File" is for bills that have a fiscal impact on the state of more than \$150,000.

There were a number of bills CA-ACC has taken a position on which I have updated below. Let me know if you have any questions.

AB 890 (Wood) – CA-ACC Position – Oppose – Held on Suspense File – Dead for this year

AB 890 would expand the scope of practice for nurse practitioners (NPs) who have obtained a national certification from a national certifying body to practice medicine without the supervision of a physician as long as they practice in one of the following settings: a clinic, a healthcare facility, an accountable care organization, or a medical group. NPs would be allowed to perform activities including but not limited to: order and interpret diagnostic procedures, assess and establish diagnosis of patients to determine a plan of care, and order, furnish, and prescribe drugs and devices.

SB 697 (Caballero) CA-ACC Position – Oppose unless Amended – Passed off Suspense File

Increases the supervision ratio for the number of PAs a physician can supervise from 4:1 to 6:1 when a PA is prescribing and unlimited when PA is not prescribing. Also deletes the requirement for physicians to review and countersign medical records of patients seen by PA.

SB 446 (Stone) – CA-ACC Position – Oppose – Held on Suspense File – Dead for this year

This bill would authorize Medi-Cal to pay pharmacists for providing hypertension medication management services. This bill failed to pass out of the Appropriations Committee.

SB 706 (Galgiani) – CA-ACC Position – Support – Passed off Suspense File

SB 706 would create a task force to develop and update a comprehensive strategic plan to improve health outcomes for individuals with a diagnosis of pediatric or pulmonary hypertension, including recommendations on how to advance research on pulmonary hypertension, increase public awareness and recognition of pulmonary hypertension, improve health care delivery for patients with pulmonary hypertension, and improve early and accurate diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension. The task force shall submit a report to the Governor by January 1, 2021

SB 347 (Monning) – CA-ACC Position – Support – Passed off Suspense File

This bill will allow consumers to make informed purchasing decisions by requiring anyone who distributes, sells, or offers for sale a sugar-sweetened beverage to include a safety warning on the product. The bill would also require a similar warning label be placed on vending machines or beverage dispensing machines where a sugar-sweetened beverage is sold.

AB 138 (Bloom) – CA-ACC Position – Support – Stalled in Rev and Tax Committee – Dead for this year

AB 138 would establish a 2-cents per fluid ounce tax on sugary drinks at the distributor level. The revenues would be deposited in the California Community Health Fund, which would provide funding for programs to promote health equity, reduce health disparities, improve oral health, and prevent the leading causes of illness and premature death, especially those caused by sugary drink consumption. These illnesses include obesity, diabetes, heart disease, tooth decay and certain cancers.

AB 1268 (Rodriguez) – CA-ACC Position – Support – Held on Suspense File – Dead for this year

This bill would require health plans to report their top 30 health care services for which prospective was approved or denied to the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC). This transparency into a health plan's prior authorization process will help lawmakers understand where changes are needed to improve patient care.