

CHEAC Legislative Hot Sheet 2003 - #9

June 13, 2003

SUPPORT 1

AB 1363/Berg - Authorizes cities, counties, or cities and counties to develop clean needle and syringe exchange projects that contain prescribed components.

LAST ACTION: Passed out as amended from Assembly Health (16-8) - Amended 4/28/03

STATUS: Assembly Appropriations Committee

SB 774/Vasconcellos – Authorizes a licensed pharmacist to sell hypodermic needles or syringes to a person without a prescription. Other provisions.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of Senate (21-11) - In Assembly

STATUS: Assembly Health Committee - Set for hearing 6/24/03

SUPPORT 2

AB 472/Correa – Requires that federal funding received by the state for bioterrorism preparedness and emergency response is continuously appropriated to DHS during any fiscal year that the Budget Act is not enacted by July 1 of that year.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of Assembly Health (24-1) - 5/7 Heard in Assembly Appropriations - placed on suspense file

STATUS: Assembly Appropriations Committee - Heard, remains in committee

AB 946/~~Frommer~~ Berg - Authorizes cities, counties, or cities and counties to develop clean needle and syringe exchange projects.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of the Assembly (44-33)

STATUS: In Senate

***Please note that AB 946 has been significantly amended. CHEAC's position is currently pending. Also note that this bill is now similar to AB 1363/Berg.**

AB 988/Maze - Authorizes a credit against the personal income taxes for each taxable year beginning on or after 1/1/03, and before 1/1/08 in an amount either 20% of the amount received by a qualified medical care professional for treating Medi-Cal beneficiaries in a qualified county, or 10% of the salary received by a qualified medical care professional as an employee in either a qualified health center or a clinic operated by a federally recognized Indian tribe or the Indian Health Service.

LAST ACTION: Heard in Assembly Revenue & Taxation, placed on suspense file

STATUS: Assembly Revenue & Taxation Committee - Heard, remains in committee

AB 1524/Richman - Changes the name of the Children's Health Initiative Matching Fund to the County Health Initiative Matching Fund. Expands the scope of the fund's health insurance coverage to adults who are parents of eligible children and who meet specified criteria. Authorizes funding for adults in a fiscal year only if funds are not needed for the children's expansion program.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of Assembly (73-3) - In Senate

STATUS: Referred to Senate Health & Human Services Committee and Senate Insurance Committee

SB 101/Chesbro – Requires Knox-Keene health care service plans and disability insurance policies to provide coverage for the treatment of medically necessary substance related disorders on the same basis as they provide coverage for any other medical condition. Other provisions.

STATUS: Senate Insurance Committee

SB 142/Alpert – Creates the Medi-Cal to Healthy Families Accelerated Enrollment Program that would make children meeting specified criteria eligible for health, dental, and vision coverage under the Healthy

Families Program. Other provisions.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of Senate Insurance (6-3)

STATUS: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 858/Ortiz – Provides that any amount appropriated to DHS to implement designated tobacco use prevention programs shall be available for encumbrance and expenditure for 2 fiscal years beyond the date of appropriation.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of Senate (37-0) - In Assembly

STATUS: Referred to Assembly Health Committee - Set for hearing 6/24/03

OPPOSE 1

AB 206/Richman – Implements the Emergency Health Powers Act.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of Assembly Health (16-4) - 5/21 Heard in Assembly Appropriations, placed on suspense file

STATUS: Assembly Appropriations Committee - Heard, remains in committee

AB 1200/Longville – Limits the helmet law to drivers and passengers who are 17 years of age or less.

STATUS: Assembly Transportation Committee - Heard, remains in committee

AB 1470/Vargas - Authorizes, in any county, the increase in IHSS wages, benefits, or both, by voter initiative to the same extent that these wages and benefits may be increased by the BOS under the IHSS program. Requires a voter initiative to only be placed on the ballot of a previously scheduled county election and specifies the events that would have to occur in order for the voter initiative to take place.

LAST ACTION: Amended 6/2/03 - Passed out of Assembly (41-31)

STATUS: In Senate

OPPOSE 2

SB 685/Hollingsworth - Exempts from safety helmet requirements a person who has on file with the DMV a certificate signed by a physician or surgeon or a licensed chiropractor substantiating a disability that renders the person unable to wear a safety helmet as required under existing law.

LAST ACTION: Failed Passage in Senate Transportation (6-7) - Reconsideration Granted

STATUS: Senate Transportation Committee

SPECIAL INTEREST BILLS

AB 30/Richman - Requires MRMIB to expand HFP to provide coverage to employed childless adults who are uninsured, meet certain income criteria. Subject to approval of federal waiver and appropriation of state matching funds.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of Assembly (73-0) - In Senate

STATUS: Referred to Senate Health & Human Services Committee and Senate Insurance Committee

AB 1716/Human Services Committee - Requires, for 2003-04 FY and fiscal years thereafter, that no Sales Tax Growth Account funds shall be allocated until the caseload portion of the base of each county's social services account in the county health and welfare trust fund is funded to the level of the prior year, and would require that funds to meet that requirement shall be allocated from Sales Tax Account of the Local Revenue Fund.

LAST ACTION: Senate Health & Human Services Committee - Set for hearing 6/11/03

STATUS: Passed out as amended (7-1) - To Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 420/Vasconcellos - Requires DHS to establish and maintain a voluntary program for the issuance of id cards to qualified medical marijuana patients and establishes procedures under which a qualified patient with an id card may use marijuana for medical purposes. Imposes various duties upon county health departments relating to the issuance of id cards.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of Senate (24-12) - In Assembly

STATUS: Referred to Assembly Public Safety Committee and Assembly Health Committee

SB 431/Ortiz - Intent bill to establish the Department of Public Health (DPH), realign certain responsibilities between the DPH and DHS by transferring responsibility for the administration of specified programs to the DPH, provides that the new department shall be under the direction of the California Surgeon General and provides for the establishment of a public health board to provide public and expert involvement in the development of policies, regulations, and programs administered by DPH.

STATUS: Senate Rules Committee

SB 476/Florez - Allows Emergency Medical Services Agencies to maintain a reserve of only 10% in the physicians and hospital portions of their EMS fund. Requires each county to report to the EMSA on each April 15 (instead of January 1), and requires EMSA to compile and submit a report to the Legislature. Requires the administering officer to solicit input from physicians and hospitals to review payment distribution methodologies to ensure fair and timely payments.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of Senate (37-0)

STATUS: Assembly Health Committee

SB 635/Dunn - Revises the limitation for uncompensated ER physician services to specify that the payment (to the physician) will not be made through any private health insurance or health plan coverage. Eliminates requirement that reimbursement can only be made for services provided in the first 48 hours.

LAST ACTION: Passed out of Senate (37-0)

STATUS: Assembly Health Committee

SB 767/Florez - Enacts the California Health Care Safety Net Act of 2003 that would set a minimum level of funding for specified health care programs, and would prohibit these programs from being included in any transfer of responsibility and funding from state government to local governments. Requires a hospital, as a condition of receiving funds allocated for emergency departments from public sources, to have a written MOU or other formal agreement between the hospital and nonprofit community health centers in its area that would require emergency departments to establish a process, including protocols, whereby an emergency department would refer non-emergency care patients to nonprofit health centers for preventive primary care services and nonprofit community health centers would refer inpatient care cases to hospitals. Requires DHS Director to establish a task force composed of reps from specified provider groups to assess whether other programs should be added to the programs included in the health care safety net.

STATUS: Senate Rules Committee