

2021 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

June 9, 2021

Priority 1

Bill Number: AB 32
AUTHOR: Aguiar-Curry
TITLE: Telehealth

LOCATION: Advanced to Senate

Position: Co-sponsor
SUMMARY: This measure seeks to make permanent telehealth flexibilities implemented during the public health emergency, including access to audio-only visits, and remote eligibility and enrollment for Medi-Cal programs.

Bill Number: SB 306
AUTHOR: Pan
TITLE: STI Coverage + Care Act

LOCATION: Advanced to Assembly

Position: Sponsor
SUMMARY: This measure seeks to address California's STI epidemic by expanding access to STI coverage and care and creating a more equitable health system.

Bill Number: SB 523
AUTHOR: Leyva
TITLE: Contraceptive Equity Act of 2021

LOCATION: Advanced to Assembly

Position: Sponsor
SUMMARY: This measure aims to expand and modernize birth control access in California, and ensure greater contraceptive equity statewide, regardless of an individual's gender or insurance coverage status.

Priority 2

Bill Number: AB 265
AUTHOR: Petrie-Norris
TITLE: Medi-Cal: reimbursement rates

LOCATION: Did not advance

Position: Support
SUMMARY: This bill will repeal the 80% of Medicare cap on reimbursement rates for laboratories processing STD lab tests. The measure would also eliminate the Department of Health Care Service's ability to retro-actively lower rates and seek claw backs for STD lab tests, as the department is attempting to do this year.

Bill Number: AB 1184
AUTHOR: Chiu
TITLE: Confidential health information

LOCATION: Advanced to Senate

SUMMARY:

Position: Support
This measure seeks to reduce barriers to confidential services and enhance confidentiality protections in California's Confidential Health Information Act (sponsored by Essential Access Health in 2013) by shifting the burden of triggering protections from patients to insurers.

Bill Number: SB 17
AUTHOR: Pan
TITLE: Office of Racial Equity

LOCATION: Advanced to Assembly

SUMMARY:

Position: Support
Would, until January 1, 2029, the Office of Racial Equity as an independent public entity governed by a Racial Equity Advisory and Accountability Council. The bill would task the office with developing and evaluating strategies for advancing racial equity across state agencies, departments, and the office of the Governor. The bill would require the office to develop a statewide Racial Equity Framework that includes a strategic plan with policy and inclusive practice recommendations and benchmarks to reduce racial inequities, promote racial equity, and address individual, institutional, and structural racism.

Priority 3

Bill Number: AB 4
AUTHOR: Arambula
TITLE: Medi-Cal: eligibility

LOCATION: Advanced to Senate

SUMMARY:

Position: Support
This bill would extend eligibility for full scope Medi-Cal benefits to anyone regardless of age or immigration status.

Bill Number: AB 14/SB 4
AUTHOR: Aguiar-Curry/Gonzalez
TITLE: Expand broadband access

LOCATION: Advanced to Senate/Assembly

SUMMARY:

Position: Support
Would require the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to coordinate with other relevant state, local and national agencies to explore ways to facilitate local land use approvals and construction permit processes for projects related to broadband infrastructure deployment and connectivity.

Bill Number: AB1356
AUTHOR: Bauer-Kahan
TITLE: Reproductive health providers: confidentiality of personal information

LOCATION: Advanced to Senate

SUMMARY:

Position: Support
This measure would update provisions in current law to protect online security for individuals that work in reproductive health facilities.

Bill Number: SB 245
AUTHOR: Gonzalez
TITLE: Health care coverage: abortion services cost sharing

LOCATION: Advanced to Assembly

SUMMARY:

Position: Support
This measure seeks to eliminate cost-sharing and co-pays for abortion services covered by commercial health plans.

Bill Number: SB 316
AUTHOR: Eggman/McGuire
TITLE: Medi-Cal: federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics
LOCATION: Advanced to Assembly

SUMMARY:

Position: Support
This measure would Authorize reimbursement for a maximum of two visits taking place on the same day, at a single health care service site.

Bill Number: SB 379
AUTHOR: Wiener
TITLE: University of California: contracts, health facilities
LOCATION: Did not advance

SUMMARY:

Position: Support
This bill will ensure that the University of California (UC) provides patients comprehensive reproductive and LGBTQ-inclusive health care services and prohibits UC from entering into any contract that limits the services that UC doctors or students are able to provide.

Bill Number: SR 6/HR 10
AUTHOR: Skinner/Calderon
TITLE: Relative to women's reproductive health
LOCATION: Adopted

SUMMARY:

Position: Support
This resolution urges the President of the United States and the United States Congress to express their support for a woman's fundamental right to control their own reproductive decisions, as well as their support for access to comprehensive reproductive health care.