

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Week of August 26, 2024

State Issues

End of 2023-24
Legislative Session

The 2023-24 Legislative session concludes tomorrow (Saturday, August 31), and Legislators will be going right up the deadline to finish their business. While the Legislative rule for the last day to amend bills was last Friday, rule waivers have been granted in both houses to amend bills until late this past Wednesday. This timeline ensures bills could be amended and still make the Constitutionally required 72-hour period before being voted on before they end session Saturday night. Many Legislators were hoping to wrap up work by Friday night so they can get home to enjoy the full Labor Day weekend. However, even if one bill remains to be voted on Saturday will hold them in Sacramento. And with the rule waiver, it appears that the flood gate has opened with dozens of bills not eligible to be voted on until Saturday. There has been action this week on some of the priority health bills:

SB 1432 (Caballero) would extend the hospital seismic deadline from 2030 to 2035. The bill passed the Assembly this week with 56 ayes, 0 nays, and 23 abstentions. The bill is now awaiting action on the Senate Floor, who will vote to concur on the amendments made to the bill in the Assembly. Normally, this is a noncontroversial, smooth process, but the opponents are ramping up their opposition, with new groups adding their voice. The bill has until Saturday evening to get called up and passed by the Senate. It would then make its way to the Governor.

SB 1119 (Newman) would extend the 2025 seismic deadline for several Providence Hospitals. It passed and is on its way to the Governor.

AB 869 (Wood) would extend the seismic deadline for 3 years, for a small group of rural and district hospitals. The bill passed out of the Senate and Assembly and is now on its way to the Governor,

AB 3129 (Wood) would increase the Attorney General's authority over health care transactions involving private investors. Due to last minute amendments, there is a great deal of uncertainty regarding the scope of the bill or its impact on nonprofit health care transactions. The bill is awaiting action in the Senate and opposition is building.

AB 1895 (Weber) requires hospitals who believe that they may have to close their perinatal services in the next 6 months to notify HCAI. HCAI will then conduct a community assessment for those services and will note which nearby community hospitals with perinatal services have restrictions in reproductive health services. The bill passed the Senate Floor 31-7-2 vote and is awaiting concurrence on Assembly Floor.

AB 3275 (Soria) requires health plans to pay claims within 30 days. It passed off the Assembly Floor without any No votes and now heads to the Senate for concurrence.

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	<p>AB 977 (Rodriguez) would increase penalties for assaulting hospital staff in Emergency Departments. The bill passed the Assembly on concurrence with overwhelming support and is now headed to the Governor.</p>
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