

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2012



2012 COA Annual Meeting
April 20, 2012

Presented by

Tim Shannon, Shannon Government Relations

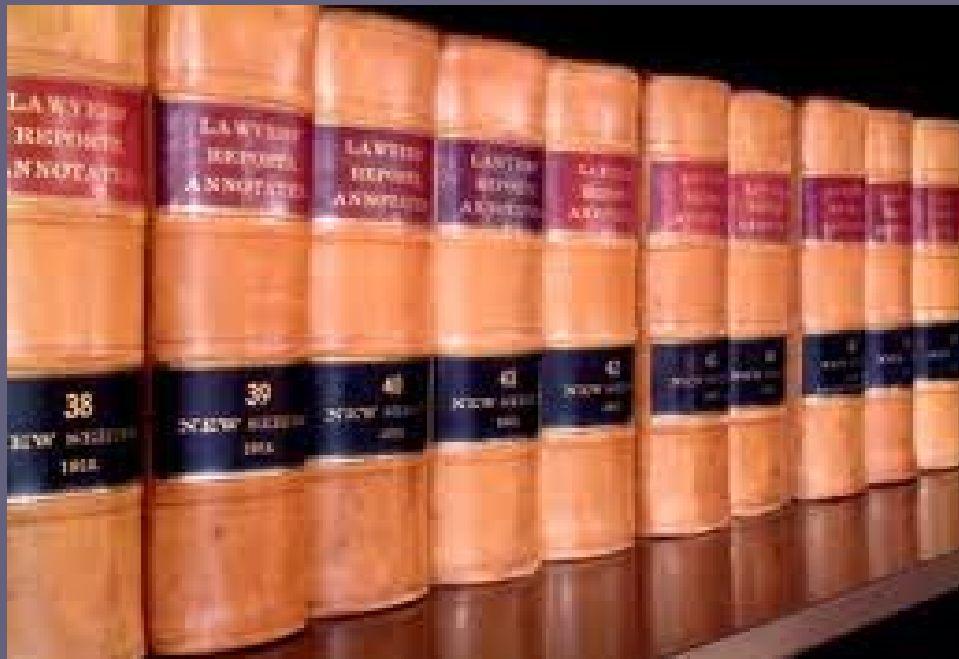
Legislative Make-Up 2012

- ❖ SENATE: 25 Dems, 15 Reps
- ❖ ASSEMBLY: 52 Dems, 27 Reps, 1 Independent
- ❖ 28 New legislators elected in 2010
- ❖ 43 seats will be “open” in 2012
- ❖ Redistricting and “open” primary



2012 Legislation

- ❖ Over 4,300 measures introduced in 2011-2012
- ❖ COA is actively tracking 100 + bills



Areas of COA Interest:

- ❖ Scope of Practice
- ❖ Workers Compensation
- ❖ Budget/Medi-Cal
- ❖ Payment Mechanisms/Managed Care
- ❖ “Other”

california orthopaedic association
“keeping you active”

Scope of Practice

❖ Physical Therapy

- AB 783 (Hayashi)
- SB 924 (Price)

❖ Traumatologists

- SB 1488 (Yee)

Legislation

- ❖ AB 783 (Hayashi) – COA Sponsored
 - Response to recent legislative counsel opinion and actions of PT Board
 - Clarifies that medical corporations may employ PTs
 - Supported by CMA, Podiatric Association, Occupational Therapist Association, Chiropractic Association, many PTs
 - Opposed by California Therapy Association

Legislation

- ❖ SB 924 (Price) – Sponsored by California Physical Therapy Association
 - Reintroduced legislation that has failed twice in the last 4 years
 - Would allow direct access for 30 business days of patients to physical therapists, after which examination by physician required
 - Requires written and oral disclosures to patients

Traumatology Certification

- ❖ Re-introduction of SB 628
- ❖ Creates Traditional Chinese Medicine Traumatology Council
- ❖ Seven member council includes 2 COA reps, 1 CMA rep, and 1 Medical Board rep
- ❖ Not under any DCA licensing board

Acupuncturists: Disability Determination

- ❖ AB 1889 (Fong) would allow acupuncturists to determine disability in workers comp or unemployment insurance
- ❖ As amended, will now require acupuncture license applicants to pass a practical examination
- ❖ AB 2702 (Eng) would allow an acupuncturist to determine disability if he/she is designated a QME

Athletic Trainers

- ❖ SB 1273 (Lowenthal) would establish Athletic Trainer Licensing Committee
- ❖ Committee would include physician members
- ❖ Treatment would have to be under direction of a physician

Workers Compensation

- ❖ SB 923 (De Leon) sponsored by United Health Works; would require AD to adopt RBRVS
 - Bill requires “budget neutrality”—conversion factors that result in no overall increased costs
 - Surgical specialists would suffer deep cuts
 - Bill does not address “ground rules”—codes, modifiers, etc.
- ❖ AB 1687 (Fong) would require UR Communication denying or delaying treatment to inform the employee of the available options for objecting to the denial

Other Legislation

- ❖ SB 1373 (Lieu) Non-Emergency “Balance Billing”
 - Would require physicians to disclose to patients when a health care service is out-of-network
 - Prohibits a medical group from advertising as being with a patient’s network unless all of the providers in the organization are in-network
 - Out-of-network provider can only “balance bill” if disclosure is given