

Legislative Update 2015



**2015 COA ANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 24, 2015**

Presented by: Tim Shannon, Shannon Government Relations

Legislative Make-Up 2015



- ❖ SENATE: 25 Dems, 14 Reps, 1 Vacancy (SD 7)
- ❖ ASSEMBLY: 53 Dems, 27 Reps
- ❖ 32 New legislators elected in 2014
- ❖ 21 seats will be open in 2016
- ❖ Redistricting and “top two” primary



2015 Legislation



- ❖ Over 2,300 measures introduced in 2015
- ❖ COA is actively tracking 50 + bills



Areas of COA Interest



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

Scope of Practice



❖ Naturopathic Doctors

- SB 538 (Block)

❖ Nurse Practitioners

- SB 323 (Hernandez)



❖ SB 538- Naturopathic Doctors

- ❖ Allows naturopathic doctors to expand testing to include EKGs, venipuncture, and clinical labs
- ❖ Removes existing requirement that all studies must be conducted and interpreted by licensed professionals
- ❖ Allows parenteral therapy, joint aspiration



❖ SB 323- Nurse Practitioners

- ❖ Allows “certified” NP to practice without MD supervision
- ❖ Removes “collaboration” and “consultation” with MD for services
- ❖ Allows diagnostic procedures, and prescription of drugs and devices
- ❖ Requires professional liability insurance “appropriate” for practice setting

Workers Compensation



❖ SB 563 (Pan)- Utilization Review

- ❖ Requires employer to disclose compensation arrangements/incentive-based payments to reviewers
- ❖ Prohibits use of UR when it is for a prior injury that has already been reviewed and approved, and there is no evidence that the treatment is no longer necessary
- ❖ COA is meeting and conferring with employers, labor, and other health care provider groups



❖ AB 1124 (Perea)- Drug Formulary

- ❖ Would establish a WC prescription drug formulary
- ❖ Requires AD of DWC to establish
- ❖ Modeled after Texas, Washington formularies
- ❖ CWCI estimates \$124-\$420 million annual savings

Budget/Medi-Cal



- ❖ **AB 366 (Bonta), SB 243 (Hernandez): Provider rates**
 - ❖ Would reverse rate cuts for physicians who treat Medi-Cal patients
 - ❖ Would reinstate primary care Medi-Cal rate “bump” to Medicare rate that expired in 2015.
 - ❖ Would increase payments to hospital and Medi-Cal managed care plans

Managed Care



❖ AB 533 (Bonta)

- ❖ Attempts to limit the amount a non-participating provider in a participating facility may receive for covered services
- ❖ COA opposes

Questions?

