

MCHAP – bills of interest

Thursday, April 4, 2019

These are bills that may be of interest to MCHAP members. The bills with an asterisk and highlighted in yellow are “spot bills,” which are expected to be replaced with substantive provisions at a later date. Inclusion on this list does not indicate support or endorsement by MCHAP or any other entity or organization.

Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Summary
AB 4	Arambula D	Medi-Cal: eligibility	12/4/2018 - From printer. May be heard in committee January 3.	The bill would extend eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal benefits to individuals of all ages regardless of their immigration status
AB 8	Chu D	Pupil health: mental health professionals	3/18/2019 - From committee: Amend, and do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on HEALTH (Ayes 5, Noes 0. March 13)	The bill would require a school and a charter school to have at least one mental health professional for every 600 pupils general accessible to pupils on campus during school hours, to employ at least on mental health professional to serve multiple schools. Would require school to receive Medi-Cal benefits to seek reimbursement for costs of implementing the bill’s provisions through LEA Medi-Cal billing option and the School-Based Medi-Cal administrative Activities Program
AB 43	Gloria D	Mental Health	Spot bill	The bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to ensure that Mental Health Services Act funds are used in accordance with the provisions of the act and that there is adequate oversight of excess unspent funds.
AB 174	Wood D	Personal income taxes: credits: health insurance premiums.	1/24/2019 - Referred to Coms. on HEALTH and REV. & TAX.	The bill would allow credit in an amount equal to the cost of health insurance premiums of the lowest cost bronze plan for the qualified individual, certified by the board of Covered CA, or the qualified individual’s dependent that exceeds 8% but no more than ___% of the qualified individual’s modified adjusted gross income.
AB 316	Ramos D	Medi-Cal: benefits: beneficiaries with special dental care needs.	2/11/2019 - Referred to Com. on HEALTH.	The bill would require the Department to implement a payment adjustment to Medi-Cal providers who render dental services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. The bill would require the Department to seek any necessary approvals from CMS to implement the bill.

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AB 318	Chu D	Medi-Cal materials: readability.	3/13/2019 – Re-referred to Com. on HEALTH.	The bill would require all consumer-facing materials translated by DHCS or the plans to be field tested. Would also require a workgroup to identify the 10 most important Medi-Cal documents for consumers and send those to an outside contractor to improve the readability, and once the materials are finalized, translate and field test those materials.
AB 385	Calderon D	Medi-Cal: Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment mental health services: performance outcome system platform.	2/15/2019 - Referred to Com. on HEALTH.	The bill would require DHCS to develop a platform or integrate with an existing platform to support the performance outcome system that will improve outcomes at the individual and system levels and will inform decision making related to the purchase of services
AB 414	Bonta D	Healthcare coverage: minimum essential coverage.	2/15/2019 - Referred to Health Committee.	The bill would require a resident and his/her depends are covered under minimum essential coverage and would impose a penalty for the failure to maintain minimum essential coverage.
AB 512	Ting D	Medi-Cal: specialty mental health services.	3/18/2019 – Re-referred to Health Committee.	The bill would require each mental health plan to prepare a cultural competency assessment plan to address disparities in access, utilization and outcomes by race, ethnicity etc. Would require the mental health plan to submit its cultural competency assessment plan to DHCS every 3 years
AB 526	Petrie-Norris D	Public social services: SSI/SSP.	2/14/2019 - From printer. May be heard in committee March 16.	The bill would authorize the implementation and funding of express lane enrollment pathway in Medi-Cal from WIC to facilitate health coverage enrollment for vulnerable children and pregnant women who are eligible but not enrolled in Medi-Cal
AB 537	Arambula D	Medi-Cal managed care: quality improvement and value-based financial incentive program.	2/25/2019 – Referred to Health Committee.	The bill would require a Medi-Cal managed care plan to meet minimum performance level (MPL) that improves the quality of health care and reduces health disparities for enrollees. The bill would also require the department to establish both a quality assessment and performance improvement program and a value-based financial incentive program to ensure that a Medi-Cal managed care plan achieves an MPL
AB 577	Eggman D	Medi-Cal: maternal mental health.	2/25/2019 – Referred to Health Committee.	The bill would extend Medi-Cal postpartum care for up to one year beginning on the last day of the pregnancy for an eligible individual diagnosed with a maternal mental health condition.

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AB 598	Bloom D	Hearing aids: minors.	2/25/2019 – Referred to Com. on HEALTH.	The bill would require a health care services plan contract or a health insurance policy to include coverage for hearing aids, for an enrollee or insured under 18 years old
SB 653 *	Chang R	Telehealth.	3/14/2019 – Referred to Rules Committee	Spot bill on telehealth for dental
AB 741 *	Arambula D	Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program: universal trauma screening.	2/20/2019 - From printer. May be heard in committee March 22.	Spot bill on implementing provider training to ensure the success and sustainability of universal trauma screenings.
AB 826	Reyes D	Medi-Cal: specialty mental health services: foster youth.	2/21/2019 - From printer. May be heard in committee March 23.	Would make technical nonsubstantive changes to existing law of requiring each local mental health plan to establish a procedure to ensure access to specialty mental health services as required by EPSDT for youth in foster care who have been placed outside their county of adjudication
AB 875 *	Wicks D	Pupil health: in-school support services.	2/21/2019 - From printer. May be heard in committee March 23.	Spot bill on Healthy Start
AB 977 *	Stone, Mark D	Medi-Cal: Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment.	2/22/2019 – From printer. May be heard in committee March 24.	Spot bill based on findings from audit on timely access to care and preventive services for kids
AB 1004	McCarty D	Developmental screening services.	3/7/2019 Referred to Health committee	The bill would require screening services be provided as an EPSDT benefit that would include developmental screening services for individuals 0-3 years of age. The bill would also require the Department to ensure a Medi-Cal managed care plan's ability and readiness to perform these developmental screening services and would require the department to adjust a Medi-Cal managed care plan's capitation rate

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AB 1175	Wood D	Medi-Cal: specialty mental health services.	3/18/2019 – Referred to Health Committee. From committee chair, with author’s amendments: Amend and re-refer to Health Committee.	This bill would require the department to require that the MOU include a referral protocol between the mental health plan and the Medi-Cal managed care plan that tracks, among other things, the number of referrals for service from one plan to the other plan. The bill would require the MOU to include processes through which a Medi-Cal beneficiary receiving services from a provider of one plan may continue to receive specialty or nonspecialty mental health services from that same provider, if the provider is able to continue providing care to that beneficiary.
AB 1642	Wood D	Medi-Cal: managed care plans.	3/18/2019 - Referred to Com. on HEALTH. From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on HEALTH. Read second time and amended.	The bill would require the information compiled by the EQRO to include the extent to which Medi-Cal managed care plans uses clinically appropriate telecommunications technology to meet established time and distance standards.
SB 10	Beall D	Mental health services: peer, parent, transition-age and family support specialist certification	3/13/2019 – Set for hearing March 27	The bill would require DHCS to establish a statewide peer, parent, transition-age, and family support specialist certification program as part of the state’s comprehensive mental health and substance use disorder delivery system and the Medi-Cal program. The bill would also require the Department to consult with OSHPD and other stakeholders in implementing the certification program
SB 29	Durazo D	Medi-Cal: eligibility	Pending referral to committee	The bill would extend eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal benefits to individuals of all ages regardless of their immigration status
SB 65	Pan D	California Health Benefit Exchange: financial assistance	Pending referral to committee	The bill would require the Exchange to administer financial assistance to help low-income and middle-income Californians access affordable health coverage by requiring the Exchange to implement specified maximum premium contributions and to reduce copays and deductibles for individuals who meet specified income requirements

Measure	Autho	Topic	Status	Summary
SB 66	Atkins D	Medi-Cal: federally qualified health center and rural health clinic services.	2/21/2019 - Set for hearing March 20.	The bill would authorize reimbursement for a maximum of 2 visits taking place on the same day at a single location if after the first visit the patient suffers illness or injury requiring additional diagnosis or treatment, or if the patient has a medical visit and a mental health visit or a dental visit. The bill would also authorize a FQHC or RHC that currently includes the cost of a medical visit and a mental health visit that takes place on the same day at a single location as a single visit for the purposes of establishing the FQHC's or RHC's rate to apply for an adjustment to its per-visit rate, and after the dept. has approved that rate adjustment, to bill a medical visit and a mental health visit that take place on the same day at a single local as separate visits.
SB 154	Pan D	Medi-Cal: restorative dental services.	2/21/2019 - Set for hearing March 20.	The bill would authorize a provider of services for the treatment of dental caries to provide, and receive reimbursement for, the application of silver diamine fluoride when used as a caries arresting agent if the provider first consults with the beneficiary and obtains written informed consent, and if the treatment is included as part of a comprehensive treatment plan, to the extent that federal financial participation is available and any necessary federal approvals have been obtained.
SB 175	Pan D	Healthcare coverage: minimum essential coverage.	2/6/2019-Referred to Coms. on HEALTH and GOV. & F.	The bill would require a California resident and any dependent of the resident, is covered under minimum essential coverage. It would also impose a penalty for the failure to maintain minimum essential coverage. The bill would require the Exchange to determine the penalty for a resident and would require the Franchise Tax Board to collect the penalty.
SB 207	Hurtado D	Medi-Cal: asthma preventive services.	2/13/2019 - Referred to Com. on HEALTH. Will be heard April 3	The bill would expand supports for asthma patient education provided by non-licensed providers and increase funding to remediate environmental asthma triggers
SB 260	Hurtado D	Automatic healthcare coverage enrollment.	3/18/2019 – March 20 hearing postponed by committee.	Patients who lose Medi-Cal would be automatically enrolled in Covered California's silver-tier health plan, which has a \$2,500 annual deductible for individuals and \$5,000 for families, and out-of-pocket maximums of \$7,550 and \$15,100, respectively
SB 428	Pan D	Teachers: youth mental health first aid.	3/8/2019 – Set for hearing April 10.	The bill would require teachers to go through Youth Mental Health First Aid training to fulfill requirements of their district's local control assessment plan.