

Legislative Update

November 16, 2022

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Stakeholder Relations**

2022 Enacted Bill Summary

- AB 1982 (Santiago): Dental Plan Telehealth Disclosures
- AB 2127 (Santiago): Dependent Adult Notice
- SB 225 (Weiner): SB 221 Timely Access Cleanup
- SB 979 (Dodd): DMHC Emergency Authority
- SB 1207 (Portantino): Maternal Mental Health
- SB 1419 (Becker): Application Programming Interfaces

Abortion Related Bills

- AB 2134 (Weber): Requires a health plan that provides health coverage to employees of a religious employer to provide enrollees with written information on excluded abortion and contraception benefits or services.
- AB 2205 (Carrillo): Requires health plans to annually report the amount of funds held in the segregated account.
- SB 245 (Gonzalez): Requires health plans to cover abortion and abortion-related services without a co-payment, deductible, or any type of cost-sharing requirement.

AB 988 (Bauer-Kahan): Mental Health Crisis Hotline

- Requires the California Health and Human Services Agency to create a five-year implementation plan for the 988 system, including funding strategies.
- Health plans and insurers must reimburse 988 centers and mobile crisis units for the medically necessary treatment of a mental health or substance use disorder they provide to a plan enrollee.
- Effective: Immediately

AB 2352 (Nazarian): Prescription Drug Disclosures

- Requires a health care service plan to furnish specified information about a prescription drug upon request by an enrollee or their prescribing provider.
- Prohibits a health from restricting a prescribing provider from sharing the information or penalizing a provider for prescribing a lower cost drug.
- Effective for health care service plan contracts issued, amended, delivered, or renewed on or after July 1, 2023.

AB 2581 (Salas): Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Provider Credentialing

- Requires health plans to complete the credentialing process for mental health and substance use disorder providers within 60 days from the time the provider submits their completed credentialing application.
- Requires health plans, upon receipt of the application, to notify the provider within seven business days, verify receipt, and confirm that their application is complete.
- Effective: January 1, 2023.

SB 523 (Leyva): Contraceptive Coverage Expansion

- Requires health plans to cover contraceptive drugs, devices, and products for all enrollees without a prescription.
- Enrollees would not be charged cost-sharing for over-the-counter contraceptives obtained at in-network pharmacies, or for voluntary tubal ligation and vasectomy services.
- Effective: January 1, 2024.

SB 858 (Wiener): Corrective Action Plans & Fines

- Revises the administrative and civil penalty provisions of the Knox-Keene Act and increases various specified penalty amounts assessed against health plans.
- Provides the DMHC with specific authority to impose corrective action plans.
- Effective: January 1, 2023.

SB 923 (Wiener): Gender-Affirming Care Training

- Health plan staff who are in direct contact with enrollees, are required to complete evidence-based cultural competency training so that they can provide trans-inclusive health care to individuals who identify as transgender, gender diverse, or intersex (TGI).
- Effective: January 1, 2023.

SB 1338 (Umberg): CARE Court

- Creates a court-ordered Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) plan for adults who are living with untreated schizophrenia spectrum and psychotic disorders and are in need of support and services.
- Implementation will be staggered so seven counties will begin in October 2023, and the remaining in December 2024.
- Health plans will be required to cover services for enrollees pursuant to the CARE plan.

SB 1473 (Pan): Open Enrollment & COVID-19 Therapeutics

- Establishes an open enrollment period for products offered through Covered California from November 1 of the preceding calendar year to January 31 of the benefit year.
- Requires health plans to cover the costs of COVID-19 therapeutics, without cost-sharing, prior authorization, utilization management, or in-network requirements.
- Effective: Immediately.

Questions