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**CONTACT:** Lynne Randolph  
(916) 445-7442

## **DMHC ban on balance billing of consumers affirmed by court**

**(Sacramento)** – California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) Director Cindy Ehnes has released a statement following a final ruling by Sacramento Superior Court Judge Michael Kenny in California Medical Association (CMA) et al. v. California Department of Managed Health Care and Cindy Ehnes, upholding the DMHC’s recent regulations to protect consumers from balance billing for emergency services.

“All along, the Governor and his Administration’s goal has been to protect consumers from unfair and illegal balance billing,” said Ehnes. “Our legal authority to protect consumers from bills they should never have received has now been confirmed, and we will continue to not only defend consumers from being caught in the middle of billing disputes but also work to ensure that providers are paid fairly and on time.”

*Copies of the tentative and final rulings are attached.*