

## Health Care Legislation Affecting Low-Income Consumers as of March 20, 2018

2018 is the second year of a two-year legislative session so there are both two-year bills from 2017 if they got through their house of origin and new bills that had to be introduced by February 16. There are a number of spot bills, nonsubstantive placeholder whose contents will be replaced with substantive provisions at a later date, not included in this report, so expect more details on those bills moving forward in the next report. Initial bill hearings have already begun, but most bills will not be heard until the month of April (after Spring Recess) as the deadline for bills with a fiscal cost is April 27.

### Medi-Cal

Measure	Author	Topic	Location	Summary	WCLP Position
AB 11	McCarty	Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program: screening services.	Senate Health	This bill would require that screening services under the EPSDT program include screening services for children 3 and under with Medi-Cal in compliance with the periodicity schedule and the standardized and validated screening tool.	Support
AB 1785	Nazarian	Medi-Cal eligibility: assets.	Assembly Health	Excludes the principal and interest of a 529 college savings plan, as defined, from the non-MAGI Medi-Cal assets test.	Support
AB 2331	Weber	Medi-Cal: redetermination: developmental disability.	Assembly Health	Would reduce Medi-Cal eligibility redeterminations to only every 3 years for beneficiaries with developmental disabilities who are eligible for regional center services, subject to federal approval.	
AB 2430	Arambula	Medi-Cal: program for aged and disabled persons.	Assembly Health	This bill would raise the Medi-Cal Aged and Disabled income level to 138% FPL, an amount equivalent to most other Medi-Cal income levels for adults. Co-sponsors: DRC, Justice in Aging, and Western Center.	Co-Sponsor
AB 2861	Salas	Medi-Cal: telehealth: substance use disorder services.	Assembly Health	This bill would require DHCS to allow a licensed practitioner of the healing arts or a certified substance use disorder counselor to receive Medi-Cal reimbursement for substance use disorder services provided through telehealth in accordance with the Medicaid state plan.	
SB 974	Lara	Medi-Cal: immigration status: adults.	Senate Health	This bill would expand full-scope Medi-Cal to all adults who but for their immigration status would be eligible.	Support
SB 1108	Hernandez	Medi-Cal: conditions of eligibility or coverage.	Senate Health	Prohibits DHCS from seeking or obtaining a federal Medicaid waiver to require work requirements, waiting periods, time limits, coverage lockouts, or any other condition of Medi-Cal eligibility or coverage not authorized by state or federal law.	Sponsor

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SB 1264	Stone	Medi-Cal: hypertension medication management: pharmacists.	Senate Rules	This bill would declare legislative intent to enact legislation to authorize pharmacists to provide hypertension management services to Medi-Cal members.	
<b>Managed Care</b>					
<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>WCLP Position</b>
AB 2674	Aguiar-Curry	Health care service plans: disciplinary actions.	Assembly Health	This bill would require, rather than authorize, the director of DMHC to assess administrative penalties on health plans that have acted in a way that constitutes disciplinary action.	
AB 2895	Arambula	Primary Care Spending Transparency Act.	Assembly Health	This bill would require a health plan to annually report its total primary care expenditures to CHSS; require CHHS to annually post this information on website; and direct CHHS to adopt rules prescribing the primary care services for which costs are reported.	
SB 997	Monning	Health care service plans: physician to enrollee ratios.	Senate Appropriations	This bill removes the sunset date, thereby continuing the operation that requires a health plan to ensure that there is at least one FTE primary care physician for every 2,000 enrollees.	
SB 1285	Stone	Health care coverage: advanced practice pharmacist.	Senate Health	This bill would require health plan coverage, including Medi-Cal managed care plans, for services provided by an advanced practice pharmacist, including but not limited to comprehensive medication management (CMM).	
<b>Health Disparities Reduction</b>					
<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>WCLP Position</b>
AB 1909	Nazarian	In-home supportive services: written content translation.	Assembly Appropriations	Requires DSS to translate notices, timesheets, and other forms for IHSS workers.	Support
AB 2029	Garcia, Eduardo	Public health.	Assembly Health	Adds immigrants to the list of populations the Office of Health Equity in the Dept. of Public health collects information on in order to close the gaps in health status and access to care.	
AB 2275	Arambula	Medi-Cal managed care: quality assessment and performance improvement.	Assembly Health	This bill would improve the quality of health care services provided by Medi-Cal managed care plans and reduce health disparities by holding plans accountable so that Medi-Cal enrollees achieve better health outcomes. Co-sponsors: CPEHN and Western Center.	<b>Co-Sponsor</b>
AB 2299	Chu	Medi-Cal: managed care plans: informational materials.	Assembly Health	Requires DHCS to ensure that all written health education and informing materials produced by managed health care plans, whether in English or threshold languages, are subject to a readability checklist and a community review.	<b>Co-Sponsor</b>
AB 2434	Bloom	Strategic Growth Council: Health in All Policies Task Force.	Assembly Health	Requires the Strategic Growth Council to establish a Health in All Policies (HiAP) Task Force to incorporate health, equity, and sustainability considerations into decision-making across sectors and policy areas.	

<b>Access to Justice</b>					
<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>WCLP Position</b>
AB 1526	Kalra	Civil actions: time of commencing.	Senate Judiciary	Reforms California's statute of limitations for consumer debt (including medical debt) so that a collection agency or original creditor cannot sue after the statute has run, and requires notice to the consumer that a debt may not be litigated or reported to a credit reporting agency when such activities are time-barred. Also changes how the statute timeline is calculated. 2-year bill.	Sponsor
AB 2376	Stone, Mark	Civil actions: provisional remedies: injunctions.	Assembly Judiciary	Clarifies which taxpayers can claim taxpayer standing to ensure that residents who do not own property or are not citizens can claim standing.	Sponsor
<b>Civil Rights</b>					
<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>WCLP Position</b>
AB 1971	Santiago	Mental health services: involuntary detention: gravely disabled.	Assembly Health	A spot bill intended to expand the potential use of conservatorships for persons experiencing homelessness through an expanded definition of "gravely disabled."	
AB 2156	Chen	Mental health services: gravely disabled.	Assembly Health	Expands the definition of "gravely disabled" for use in involuntary commitments and conservatorships.	
AB 2983	Arambula	Health care facilities: voluntary psychiatric care.	Assembly Health	Prohibits hospital from requiring a person who voluntarily seeks care to be in a 5150 hold as a condition of accepting a transfer of that person.	
SB 1045	Wiener	Conservatorship: chronic homelessness: mental illness and substance abuse disorders.	Senate Rules	Expands the use of conservatorships for individuals with mental illness or substance abuse problems who are "chronically homeless."	
SB 1152	Hernandez	Hospital patient discharge process: homeless patients.	Senate Health	Places additional requirements on hospitals to ensure that patients are not discharged without appropriate shelter, clothing, and medical support.	Support
<b>Dental</b>					
<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>WCLP Position</b>
AB 2643	Irwin	Dentistry: general anesthesia: health care coverage.	Assembly Health	This bill would expand health care coverage of general anesthesia beyond hospital and surgery centers, amends the required informed consent language for dental anesthesia provided to minors to include nonsurgical treatment options, and specifies informed consent for minors is only for general anesthesia, not conscious sedation.	
SB 707	Cannella	Medi-Cal: Denti-Cal Advisory Group.	Assembly Desk	This bill would, until January 1, 2023, establish the Denti-Cal Advisory Group to study the policies and priorities of Denti-Cal.	
SB 1008	Skinner	Health insurance: dental services: medical loss ratio.	Senate Rules	This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact a medical loss ratio standard for dental managed care plans.	

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SB 1148	Pan	Medi-Cal: restorative dental services.	Senate Health	This bill would authorize a Denti-Cal provider to use silver diamine fluoride as a caries arresting agent after consultation with the beneficiary, including informed consent, and as part of a comprehensive treatment plan.	
SB 1464	Wiener	Oral health: elder and dependent adults.	Senate Rules	Spot bill which aims to create new dental codes for Denti-Cal providers to administer essential dental health services and procedures to treat these patients with special needs.	
<b>Health Insurance Market</b>					
Measure	Author	Topic	Location	Summary	WCLP Position
AB 595	Wood	Health care service plans: mergers and acquisitions.	Senate Health	This bill would require specified entities that intend to merge with, consolidate, acquire, purchase, or control a health care service plan to hold public hearing on proposal, secure approval from the Director of the DMHC, and apply for licensure as a health care service plan.	Support
AB 2499	Arambula	Health care coverage: medical loss ratios.	Assembly Health	Increases by 5% the medical loss ratio requirement of plans sold in the large group market to 90% and small or individual market to 85%. Also removes requirement to issue emergency regulations in case of conflict with federal regulation as the statute goes beyond federal regulations.	Support
SB 910	Hernandez	Short-term limited duration health insurance.	Senate Appropriations	Prohibits the sale of short-term health insurance in California.	Support
SB 1287	Hernandez	Health insurance: small employer groups.	Senate Rules	Would ban association health plans to the extent possible under state law in response to Trump administration's efforts to undermine the ACA with substandard insurance products.	Support
<b>Lead Testing</b>					
Measure	Author	Topic	Location	Summary	WCLP Position
AB 2122	Reyes	Medi-Cal: Blood lead screening tests.	Assembly Health	This bill would require DHCS to ensure that a child enrolled in Medi-Cal receives blood lead screening tests and require DHCS to report blood lead screening tests for all enrolled children annually on its website, establish a case management monitoring system, and require health care providers to test enrolled children.	
AB 2370	Holden	Lead exposure: child day care facilities: family day care homes.	Assembly Human Services	This bill would require a licensed child day care facility, upon enrolling a child, request that the child's parent/guardian provide the documentation demonstrating that the child has received a blood lead screening test. If no documentation is provided, child is allowed to enroll but the child day care facility would provide information on the risks and effects of lead exposure and locations to get tested.	
AB 2976	Quirk	Childhood lead poisoning: prevention.	Assembly Health	This bill would require DHCS to ensure that a child enrolled in Medi-Cal receives blood lead screening tests.	

SB 1041	Leyva	Childhood lead poisoning prevention.	Senate Health	This bill would require the Department of Public Health to annually notify providers who perform children health health assessments about lead tests and include a lead screening report aggregated to show the total number of children enrolled and not-enrolled in Medi-Cal, broken down by county and age, who have received and who have not received blood lead screening tests.	
<b>Mental Health</b>					
Measure	Author	Topic	Location	Summary	WCLP Position
AB 1893	Maienschein	Maternal mental health: federal funding.	Assembly Health	This bill would require the Department of Public Health to investigate and apply for federal funds regarding maternal mental health and to prepare a report to the Legislature on how the department plans to use the federal funding it receives.	
AB 2112	Santiago	Federal 21st Century Cures Act: community-based crisis response plan: grant.	Assembly Health	This bill would require DHCS to develop and submit a proposal to solicit a grant under the federal 21st Century Cures Act to develop a community-based crisis response plan.	
AB 2119	Gloria	Foster care: gender affirming health care and behavioral health services.	Assembly Human Services	This bill would, upon the request of a minor or nonminor in foster care, or caregiver, attorney, Court Appointed Special Advocate, or social worker, require the county child welfare agency to ensure that the minor or nonminor in foster care has access to gender affirming health care and gender affirming behavioral health services.	
AB 2193	Maienschein	Maternal mental health.	Assembly Health	This bill would require providers who treat mothers, children, or both, to screen mothers for maternal mental health conditions at least once during pregnancy and once during the postpartum period and to report the screening's findings to the mother's primary care physician (PCP) if the provider is not the mother's PCP.	
AB 2287	Kiley	Mental Health Services Act.	Assembly Health	This bill would establish the Office of Mental Health Services within the California Health and Human Services Agency, transferring MHSA oversight functions from DHCS and require the office to initiate investigations, advise counties, conduct research, and report to the Legislature any additional authority it deems necessary to complete its duties.	
AB 2316	Eggman	Mental health: county patients' rights advocates: training and certification.	Assembly Health	This bill would require DHCS to create a remotely accessible training certification program for Patient Rights Advocates and to ensure they complete that training within 90 days of hire.	
AB 2393	Committee on Health	Mental health.	Assembly Health	This bill would implement Mental Health Compliance Plan by prohibiting a county from charging for specialty mental health services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries who do not have a share of cost or who have met their share of cost, and would authorize a county to charge fees to individuals who are not Medi-Cal beneficiaries and Medi-Cal beneficiaries who have a share of cost that has not been met.	

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AB 2843	Gloria	Mental Health Services Fund.	Assembly	This bill would state legislature intent to enact legislation that would require a county that receives reallocated funds from the Mental Health Services Fund to spend those funds within 2 years of adopting an expenditure plan for those funds and any funds not expended by a county within those 2 years would revert to the Mental Health Services Fund.	
AB 3148	Arambula	Foster care: mental health services.	Assembly	This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to provide children in foster care with early detection of mental health problems and trauma-informed, proper, and critical mental health services.	
SB 906	Beall	Medi-Cal: mental health services: peer, parent, transition-age, and family support specialist certification.	Senate Appropriations	This bill would require DHCS to establish a Peer, Parent, Transition-Age, and Family Support Specialist Certification Program.	Support
SB 1004	Wiener	Mental Health Services Act: prevention and early diagnosis.	Senate Health	This bill would amend the Mental Health Services Act by requiring counties to expend Mental Health Services Act prevention and early intervention funds on early psychosis and mood disorder detection and intervention, college mental health outreach, engagement, and service delivery, and childhood trauma prevention and early intervention.	
SB 1019	Beall	Youth mental health and substance use disorder services.	Senate Education	This bill would authorize schools and county mental health plan networks to enter into partnerships for targeted interventions for pupils with behavioral health needs and codifies the Mental Health Services Accountability and Oversight Commission's recommendation to allocate at least half of the triage grant funding for services targeted to youth 18 years of age or younger.	Support
SB 1125	Atkins	Federally qualified health center and rural health clinic services.	Senate Health	This bill would allow FQHCs and RHCs to bill Medi-Cal for two visits if a patient is provided mental health services on the same day they receive other medical services.	Support
<b>Prescription Drugs</b>					
Measure	Author	Topic	Location	Summary	WCLP Position
AB 587	Chiu	State government: pharmaceuticals: procurement: collaborative.	Senate - 2 Year Bill	Require the Dept of General Services to convene the California Pharmaceutical Collaborative to address the rising cost of pharmaceuticals.	
AB 1860	Limón	Health care coverage: cancer treatment.	Assembly Health	Deletes a sunset on cost caps on copayments for oral anticancer medication.	
AB 1998	Rodriguez	Opioids: prescription limitations.	Assembly Health	This bill would prohibit a prescriber from prescribing opioids for more than 3-days unless deemed necessary. If the prescriber writes a prescription for an opioid that is larger than the 3-day supply or is the 4th prescription without the dosage decreasing, the prescriber must detail in the patient's record why the additional prescription was needed, what other medications were considered, the patient's injury or illness, and the dosage.	

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AB 2384	Arambula	Medication-assisted treatment.	Assembly Health	This bill would require a drug formulary maintained by a health plan, including a Medi-Cal managed plan, include specified prescription drugs for the medication-assisted treatment of SUDS and would provide that medication-assisted treatment is not subject to prior authorization and an annual or lifetime dollar limit.	
AB 2741	Burke	Prescription drugs: opioid medications: minors.	Assembly Business & Professions	This bill would require a prescriber to comply with specified conditions when prescribing opioid medication to a minor, including not prescribing more than a 5-day supply of an opioid medication to that minor except in specified instances.	
SB 1021	Wiener	Prescription drugs.	Senate Health	Removes the January 1, 2020 sunset on the \$250 monthly cost sharing prescription drug cap.	Support
Reimbursement and Rates					
Measure	Author	Topic	Location	Summary	WCLP Position
AB 1963	Waldron	Medi-Cal: reimbursement: opioid addiction treatment.	Assembly Health	This bill would increase the reimbursement rate for Medi-Cal providers who are certified to prescribe medication-assisted treatment drugs.	
AB 2203	Gray	Medi-Cal: primary care services.	Assembly Health	This bill would, beginning July 1, 2019, require that the Medi-Cal rate for primary care services be not less than 100% of the Medicare rate, excluding services provided to individuals who are not eligible for the Medi-Cal program or Family PACT.	
AB 2436	Mathis	Medi-Cal: ground ambulance rates.	Assembly Health	This bill would require DHCS to establish payment rates for ground ambulance services based on changes in inflation, and would require the department to designate a specified ambulance cost study conducted by the federal Government Accountability Office as the evidentiary base.	
AB 2593	Grayson	Medi-Cal: air ambulance services.	Assembly Health	This bill would increase Medi-Cal reimbursement rates for emergency air ambulance providers.	
SB 1047	Nielsen	Medi-Cal: reimbursement rates: rural counties.	Senate Rules	This bill would state legislative intent to increase the Medi-Cal reimbursement rates for services provided by qualified providers in counties with both a population density under 300 persons per square mile and a total population under 500,000 persons.	
SB 1154	Portantino	Medi-Cal: beneficiaries with HIV or AIDS.	Senate Health	This bill would require DHCS to determine a per capita rate of payment to a managed care plan for services provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries with HIV or AIDS.	
Women's Health					
Measure	Author	Topic	Location	Summary	WCLP Position
SB 320	Leyva	Public health: public postsecondary education: on-campus student health centers: abortion by medication techniques.	Assembly Desk	Requires the UC and Cal State on-campus student health centers to provide abortion by medication and establishes the privately-funded Medication Abortion Implementation Fund pay for the services.	Support

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SB 945	Atkins	Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program.	Senate Health	Requires the BCCTP program to cover the entire duration of cancer treatment as long as the individual meets other eligibility requirements, thereby removing the 18 and 24 month cap.	Support
SB 1023	Hernandez	Reproductive health care coverage.	Senate Rules	Would clarify that health care service plans, health insurers, and Medi-Cal managed care plans may cover sexual and reproductive health services that are provided appropriately through telehealth according to clinical guidelines.	
Workforce					
Measure	Author	Topic	Location	Summary	WCLP Position
AB 2018	Maienschein	Mental health workforce planning: loan forgiveness, loan repayment, and scholarship programs.	Assembly Health	This bill would clarify that OSHPD must include in the 5-year education and training development plan 1) expansion plans for loan forgiveness and scholarship programs offered in mental health system and 2) expansion plans for making loan forgiveness programs available to current employees of the mental health system who want to further education.	
AB 2143	Caballero	Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program: providers.	Assembly Business & Professions	This bill would add physician assistants who specialize in mental health services and psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioners to those licensed mental health service providers eligible for grants under the Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program.	
AB 2539	Mathis	California Physician Corps Program: practice setting.	Assembly Health	This bill would require, for the Steve Thompson Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program, that the clinic or the physician owned and operated medical practice setting have at least 30% of patients, if the area is rural, or at least 50% of patients, if the area is urban, on Medi-Cal.	
SB 1476	Hernandez	Health professions: medically or dentally underserved population.	Senate Health	This bill would remove obsolete references to the Healthy Families Program in the definition of “medically underserved population” within the CA Medical and Dental Student Loan Repayment Program, the CA Physician Corps Program, and the Steven M. Thompson Medical School Scholarship Program.	
Other					
Measure	Author	Topic	Location	Summary	WCLP Position
AB 3033	Maienschein	CalFresh.	Assembly	Spot bill would require the information from the CalHEERS application for persons eligible for CalFresh to populate in the Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS). County eligibility workers would obtain information needed to complete the CalFresh application during the CalFresh interview.	Support

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