

Legislative History

2007 SB 389 (Yee) – Would have required a hospital-based physician practicing in a contracting hospital to seek reimbursement solely from the patient’s health plan or medical group. Hospital-based physicians would be prohibited from seeking payment directly from a patient for services covered by the patient’s health plan. The bill died in committee. *CalPERS’ Position: Support*

SB 981 (Perata) – Would have prohibited non-contracting hospital emergency room physicians from directly billing enrollees of health care service plans other than allowable co-payments and deductibles, and would have established statutory standards and requirements for claims payment and dispute resolution related to non-contracting emergency room physician claims, including an Independent Dispute Resolution Process. The bill was vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger. *CalPERS’ Position: None*

2005 AB 1321 (Yee) – Would have required a hospital-based physician practicing in a contracting hospital to seek reimbursement solely from the patient’s health plan or medical group. Hospital-based physicians would be prohibited from seeking payment directly from a patient for services covered by the patient’s health plan. The bill died in committee. *CalPERS’ Position: Support*

SB 417 (Ortiz) – Would have prohibited hospital-based providers from billing patients with health insurance an amount other than applicable co-payments, unless the provider has been denied payment by the patient’s insurer. Requires providers to include in the patient’s bill a notice that the charges may be covered by the patient’s health plan and that the patient may contact the DMHC if they believe they have been billed incorrectly. *CalPERS’ Position: None*

2004 AB 2389 (Koretz) – Would have required a health plan insurer that owns or contracts with a PPO to pay a non-contracting physician and surgeon a reasonable and customary fee for certain services provided. This bill would have prohibited physicians and surgeons from balance billing enrollees. The bill passed from the Assembly and was amended in the Senate to pertain to food labeling. *CalPERS’ Position: None*

2000 Chapter 827 (AB 1455, Scott) – Prohibits health plans from engaging in unfair payment patterns in the reimbursement of providers. Requires health plans to make their dispute resolution process available to non-contracting providers. *CalPERS’ Position: None*