



March 20, 2025

The Honorable Marc Berman
Chair, Assembly Business and Professions Committee
1020 N Street, Room 379
Sacramento CA, 95814

SUBJECT: AB 447 (Gonzalez) – SUPPORT IF AMENDED

Dear Assemblymember Berman:

California's emergency departments (EDs) provide critical, around-the-clock care to patients in need. As part of ongoing efforts to create a more affordable and equitable health care system, **the California Hospital Association (CHA), on behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems, supports the intent of Assembly Bill (AB) 447 and is working with the author and sponsors to refine the bill's language to enhance clarity and ensure feasibility.**

AB 447 would allow physicians or authorized prescribers to dispense an unused portion of a non-controlled medication to an ED patient upon discharge if specified conditions are met. This change can help reduce medication waste, improve patient medication adherence, and reduce the cost of care.

To ensure successful implementation, CHA is working with the author and sponsors to clarify prescription labeling requirements, enabling hospitals to integrate these changes into their workflows. Additionally, further language changes are being sought to limit the bill's scope to medications in multi-use packaging — such as inhalers, drops, topicals, and liquid antibiotics. These refinements are essential to maintaining patient safety while ensuring hospitals can comply with existing regulations without unnecessary challenges.

Hospitals appreciate the ongoing collaboration with the author's office and sponsors to address these concerns and develop a practical solution. With these changes, AB 447 will support efficient use of health care resources, reduce costs, and improve environmental sustainability — all while upholding the highest standards of patient care.

For these reasons, **CHA has a support if amended position on AB 447.**

Sincerely,

Vanessa Gonzalez

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Vice President, State Advocacy

cc: The Honorable Mark Gonzalez
The Honorable Members of the Assembly Business and Professions Committee
Vincent Chee and Alex Diehl, Principal Consultants, Assembly Business and Professions
Committee
Bill Lewis, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus