



April 16, 2025

The Honorable Mia Bonta
Chair, Assembly Health Committee
1020 N Street, Room 390
Sacramento CA, 95814

SUBJECT: AB 447 (Gonzalez) – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Bonta:

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, is pleased to support Assembly Bill (AB) 447. CHA thanks the author and sponsors for working with us to address our concerns.**

AB 447 will 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.

As amended, AB 447 now provides enhanced clarity, thus ensuring hospitals will be able to operationalize the new process in their EDs and ensure successful implementation. CHA worked with the author and sponsors to both clarify prescription labeling requirements and limit the bill’s scope to medications in multi-use packaging — including inhalers and drops. These refinements are essential to maintaining patient safety while ensuring hospitals can comply with existing regulations without unnecessary challenges.

CHA appreciates the ongoing collaboration with the author’s office and sponsors to address 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 supports AB 447.**

Sincerely,

Vanessa Gonzalez

Vanessa Gonzalez

Vice President, State Advocacy

cc: The Honorable Mark Gonzalez
The Honorable Members of the Assembly Health Committee
Lara Flynn, Principal Consultant, Assembly Health Committee
Justin Boman, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus