



April 10, 2025

The Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
Chair, Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee
1020 N Street, Room 162
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 45 (Bauer-Kahan) — Support

Dear Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan:

Hospitals are deeply committed to protecting patient privacy and the confidentiality of personal health information. Every day, patients place their trust in hospitals, often during their most vulnerable moments, and hospitals take their confidentiality responsibilities seriously. Safeguarding patient data is not only a legal obligation — it is a core part of our mission to provide safe, respectful, and compassionate care. **That's why the California Hospital Association (CHA), on behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems, supports Assembly Bill (AB) 45 to add additional legal protections to patient information regarding reproductive care.**

AB 45 would prohibit the use of geofencing technology around health care facilities. Geofencing creates a virtual boundary around a specific geographic area, triggering software actions — such as targeted advertising or data collection — when a mobile device enters or exits the defined zone. This technology can be misused to collect geolocation data near sensitive sites like abortion clinics and then deploy targeted ads designed to mislead, intimidate, or harass patients seeking care.

The bill also strengthens protections for sensitive health-related data by shielding research records from disclosure in response to subpoenas or law enforcement requests issued under the laws of another state that seek to interfere with a person's legal right to obtain abortion care in California.

For these reasons, **CHA supports AB 45.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Farouk", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Farouk
Vice President, State Advocacy

cc:

Honorable Members of the Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee
John Bennett, Consultant, Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee
Liz Enea, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus