



June 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Umberg
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
1021 O Street, Room 3240
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 45 (Bauer-Kahan) — Support

Dear Senator Umberg:

Hospitals are deeply committed to protecting patient privacy and the confidentiality of personal health information. Every day, patients place their trust in hospitals and other health care providers, often during their most vulnerable moments. Safeguarding patient data is not only a legal obligation — it is a core part of providing 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". The signature is stylized with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Farouk
Vice President, State Advocacy

cc: Assembly Member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
Honorable Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee
Christian Kurpiewski, Consultant, Senate Judiciary Committee
Morgan Branch, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus