

August 5, 2025

The Honorable Anna Caballero Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee California State Capitol, Room 412 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 682 (Ortega) — As amended July 17 — SUPPORT

Dear Senator Caballero:

California's hospitals see firsthand the devastating impact when health plans improperly deny or delay care authorizations or reimbursement for care already provided: Patients have a harder time accessing timely and vital health care services, and health care costs increase. Efforts by doctors, hospitals, and other providers to address these issues are hampered by health plans' lack of transparency, including a lack of publicly reported data on authorizations and claims payments.

This is why the California Hospital Association (CHA), on behalf of nearly 400 hospitals and health systems, supports Assembly Bill (AB) 682, which would require that health care service plans and insurers add specified data on claims and prior authorizations to their regular financial reports to the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) and the Department of Insurance (DOI) beginning April 1, 2027. The information would be publicly available on the departments' websites and include the number of claims processed, adjudicated, denied, or partially denied, as well as associated costs, response, and payment timelines.

AB 682's provisions are necessary to increase health care plan and insurer accountability and would be an essential step toward improving state oversight and controlling health care costs. Increased transparency and reporting from plans support the goals of discouraging inappropriate delays, denials, or administrative processes that increase costs and negatively impact patient health. By adding these requirements to the existing regular reporting system, this measure would significantly increase plan accountability, reduce unnecessary health care costs, and enhance the regulators' oversight ability without adding excessive costs to the state.

For these reasons, CHA requests your "AYE" vote on AB 682.

Sincerely,

Kalyn Dean

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Vice President, State Advocacy

cc: The Honorable Liz Ortega

The Honorable Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee Agnes Lee, Principal Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee Joe Parra and Tim Conaghan, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus