

May 12, 2025

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

SUBJECT: SB 354 (Limón) — Neutral

Dear Senator Caballero:

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 hospitals' mission to provide safe, respectful, and compassionate care. California hospitals comply with a comprehensive framework of federal and state privacy laws, including the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and California's Confidentiality of Medical Information Act.

The California Hospital Association (CHA) is grateful that Senate Bill (SB) 354's author has collaborated with hospitals to understand concerns with the bill in print and consider amendments to resolve these concerns. The amendments shared with us by the author dated May 9 resolve CHA's concerns.

For these reasons, CHA has removed its opposition to SB 354.

Sincerely,

Mark Farouk

Vice President, State Advocacy

cc: The Honorable Monique Limón

The Honorable Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee Allegra Kim, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee

Morgan Branch, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus