



May 1, 2025

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

**SUBJECT: SB 468 (Becker) — Oppose Unless Amended**

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 privacy and 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. **Hospitals are equally committed to ensuring safeguards are implemented thoughtfully and effectively, which is why the California Hospital Association (CHA), on behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health system, must respectfully oppose Senate Bill (SB) 468 (Becker) unless it is amended to exempt certain facilities. As currently written, the bill would create duplicative, costly requirements with no benefit to patients.**

SB 468 would require the California Privacy Protection Agency to enforce an entirely new body of law that obligates California businesses to develop, implement, and maintain comprehensive information security programs. While the bill uses many of the same definitions as in the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 (CCPA) and California Privacy Rights Act of 2020 (CPRA), it does not incorporate the same exemptions as do CCPA and CPRA. The California Privacy Protection Agency would therefore have an entirely new set of obligations to enforce, as well as an entirely new industry to regulate, increasing state costs at a time of significant budget challenges. The bill would also subject hospitals and other HIPAA-covered entities to duplicative and costly regulation, driving up health care costs without providing any benefit to patients.

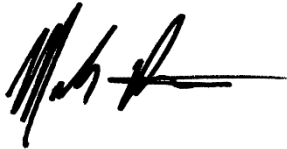
California hospitals are already subject to a comprehensive framework of federal and state privacy and security laws that strictly govern how patient information is collected, used, and shared. These laws include the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act, California's Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (CMIA), and special laws pertaining to mental health treatment, HIV test results, gender-affirming care, reproductive care, substance use disorder treatment, and more.

Collectively, these laws impose rigorous standards and enforcement mechanisms to implement security measures and protect patient privacy. Because of these strict laws, hospitals and other entities subject to the health information privacy and security laws cited above are exempt from the CCPA and CPRA (see Civil Code Section 1798.100.145(c)). However, SB 468 does not include the same exemptions as do CCPA and CPRA, subjecting hospitals and other HIPAA-covered entities to new regulations that would drive up health care costs without providing any benefit to patients. Importantly, the state serves as the payer for health care for more than 40% of Californians through the Medi-Cal program and state employee coverage. SB 468 would increase costs for the state's health care obligations, as well as for the operational expenses of the California Privacy Protection Agency.

Given the existing comprehensive regulatory framework and longstanding health information privacy and security laws, CHA requests that hospitals and other entities subject to HIPAA and/or CMIA be exempted from SB 468 by incorporating the exemption language from CPPA and CPRA into SB 468. Doing so would also minimize the additional state costs imposed by this bill.

**For the reasons stated above, CHA, on behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems, must respectfully oppose SB 468 unless amended.**

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: The Honorable Josh Becker  
Honorable Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee  
Agnes Lee, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Morgan Branch, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus