Place on hospital/system letterhead.

June xx, 2025

The Honorable Lisa Calderon

Chair, Assembly Committee on Insurance

1020 N Street, Room 369

Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT:** **SB 632 (Arreguín) — Oppose**

Dear Assemblymember Calderon:

HOSPITAL NAME takes great pride in our efforts to protect our health care workers, including making sure they receive exceptional care should they be injured or get sick while on the job.

As a result, HOSPITAL NAME approves, on average, XX% of workers’ compensation claims annually [IF APPLICABLE]. With an abiding principle of support and care for our invaluable health care workers**, HOSPITAL NAME opposes Senate Bill (SB) 632.**

Creating the state’s first-ever broad-based private-sector workers’ compensation presumption would make patient care more difficult, jeopardize a health care system already bracing for massive federal Medi-Cal cuts, and upend a highly effective and proven workers’ compensation system.

Any increase in workers’ compensation costs will directly and immediately increase the cost of health care at a time when affordability of care is a priority. With NAME OF HOSPITAL already bracing for likely Medicare and Medicaid cuts, this bill would only compound the challenges faced in maintaining access to high-quality care. The cost of this new mandate would likely be astronomical. Even a single claim, which could be filed after employment ends, could be valued in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

SB 632 would apply solely to hospital employees and create a series of workers’ compensation rebuttable presumptions that illness from a variety of conditions — including COVID-19 — arose out of and in the course of providing direct patient care. Not only is the creation of these presumptions unsupported by data, but the presumptions do not further the goal of maintaining and strengthening existing health and safety practices in California’s hospitals.

Moreover, workers making a claim for a presumed work-related injury need to provide little to no evidence that their injuries are in fact work-related. An unnecessarily expansive policy such as this would actually have the opposite effect, making it more costly to care for workers and resulting in reduced employment and protections. The current workers’ compensation system is highly effective in caring for employees who are injured or become ill due to occupational hazards. For any non-work-related illnesses or injuries, NAME OF HOSPITAL fully supports ensuring workers have access to high-quality health care.

Unfortunately, the presumptions that SB 632 would create fail to balance what the system is designed to do with the impact on patients, health care workers, and hospitals — especially given volatility and uncertainty around Medi-Cal financing.

For these reasons, [Hospital/Health System Name] respectfully asks for your “NO” vote on SB 632.

Sincerely,

[Your name and contact information]

cc: The Honorable Jesse Arreguín, Senate District 7

The Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Insurance

Paul Riches, Principal Consultant, Assembly Committee on Insurance

Lauren Prichard, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus