

May 21, 2024

The Honorable Liz Ortega Chair, Assembly Committee on Labor and Employment 1020 N Street, Room 155 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 828 (Durazo) – Support

Dear Assembly Member Ortega,

Delivering high-quality and affordable health care to patients and communities is the top priority for all California hospitals. Providing lifesaving and life-changing care can only be done in partnership with the entire health care workforce.

The California Hospital Association (CHA) on behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems SUPPORTS Senate Bill (SB) 828 which moves the initial health care minimum wage implementation date and all future wage adjustments from June 1 to July 1.

Although our members have been preparing for the June 1, 2024, implementation date, we understand for budget reasons the date needs to be delayed. Additionally, delaying all future wage increases to July 1 now, rather than in future years, will provide the predictability hospitals require to continue supporting jobs and providing access to care in the communities they serve.

For these reasons, CHA urges your AYE vote on SB 828.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Scott Senior Vice President, State Relations and Advocacy

cc:

The Honorable Maria Elena Durazo The Honorable Members of the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee Megan Lane, Consultant, Assembly Labor and Employment Committee Lauren Pritchard, Assembly Republican consultant

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Corporate members: Hospital Council - Northern and Central California, Hospital Association of Southern California, and Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties