

June 03, 2024

The Honorable Richard Roth Chair, Senate Health Committee 1020 O St., Room 3310 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 3221 (Pellerin) — SUPPORT

Dear Senator Roth:

California's hospitals see firsthand the devastating impact on patient care of harmful practices by health plans. Access to timely and vital health care services is too often limited by excessive prior authorization requirements, inadequate provider networks, and improperly denied or delayed reimbursement for care provided.

On behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems, the California Hospital Association (CHA) is writing to express support for Assembly Bill (AB) 3221, which would require the records, books, and papers of a health plan and other specified entities to be open to inspection by the director of the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC), including through electronic means.

CHA has previously expressed concerns about health plan practices that are detrimental to patients and has advocated for increased vigilance and oversight by DMHC and other regulatory agencies. We appreciate this opportunity to support reasonable, practicable changes that will support this oversight process, as it is an important step toward protecting the rights of Californians to receive medical care appropriate to their needs.

For these reasons, CHA requests your "AYE" vote on AB 3221.

Sincerely,

Meghan Loper

Meglin Lyn

Consulting Lobbyist, California Hospital Association

cc: The Honorable Gail Pellerin

The Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee

Teri Boughton, Consultant Senate Health Committee

Joe Parra and Tim Conaghan, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus