



August 9, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O St., Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 1061 (Limón) – Neutral

Dear Assemblymember Wicks:

California hospitals are proud to provide more than \$8.8 billion per year in charity care and discounted care to low-income Californians. For many, hospital charity care or discounted care is the only way they can access high-quality health care services. California has been a leader in adopting requirements to protect low-income, uninsured, or underinsured Californians from potentially devastating medical bills.

Senate Bill (SB) 1061 (Limón, D-Santa Barbara) would prohibit hospitals and other health care providers from reporting medical debt to a credit reporting agency. The California Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates the efforts of the author and sponsors to ease the financial and emotional strain on patients who have medical debt.

For these reasons, CHA and its more than 400 hospital and health system members are neutral on SB 1061, as amended on July 3.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Farouk", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Farouk
Vice President, State Advocacy
California Hospital Association

cc:

Senator Monique Limón
The Honorable Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee
Allegra Kim, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Lyndsay Mitchell, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus