

  
March 4, 2025

Welcome to America's Physician Groups' *California Update*. Each week APG reports the latest on health care happenings in the Golden State.

Here's what you'll find in this week's edition:

- APG's 2025 California [Bill Tracker](#) Is Up To Date And Online
- APG Submits Written Comments On [DMHC Claims Payment](#) All Plan Letter
- [2025](#) APG California Policy & Advocacy Meeting Dates
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### APG's 2025 California Bill Tracker Is Up To Date And Online

APG has reviewed all 2,520 bills introduced into the 2025 California legislative session and has produced a real-time bill tracking list of relevant health care bills. The Legislature self-imposed a limit on each of its 120 legislators to introduce no more than 35 bills in the two-year session. 2025 is the first year of that session, providing for a total bill count of 4,200 new matters during 2025-2026 under the 35-bill limit. This leaves the Legislature with the space to introduce about 1,600 additional bills by February 2026. For this year, we see a plethora of bills that can impact the California delegated model.

**Standardizing the HICE Coded DOFR:** First, APG is co-sponsoring a bill with the CMA that is authored by Senator Akilah Weber-Pierson, SB 344, that would require the use of the HICE coded DOFR by all plans with their delegated RBOs. The coded DOFR is free and is updated annually by HICE. Its standardized usage would clarify several ambiguities in current delegation arrangements between plans and RBOs. The bill is currently in spot form and will be amended soon. This bill is part of our ongoing mission to simplify administrative burdens. [Want to learn more about the coded DOFR?](#)

**Prior Authorization:** We are tracking five high priority bills on prior authorization reform (AB 510, AB 512, AB 539, AB 682, and SB 306). Most of these bills are repetitions of prior legislation introduced over the past three years. The Ortega bill, AB 682, contains some interesting provisions

for the public transparency of plan-level performance, that includes reporting of the total number of claims processed versus those authorized, denied, or modified. The reporting would also include ten categories of reporting of the basis of the denials. [Read the bill here](#) and let us know your thoughts. APG will continue to advocate for its members' interests in this issue area.

**Artificial Intelligence:** We are currently tracking seventeen bills that concern the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). The Legislature will soon hold a hearing on the use of AI in health care. APG is part of a broader payer-provider coalition that seeks to educate the Legislature on the beneficial uses of AI in the health care sector.

**Mandated Benefits:** We also see over thirty pending bills that impact health care coverage mandated benefits. These bills range from an examination of whether the essential health benefits standard should be changed, to requirements for new drugs, the exclusion of cost sharing mechanisms, and tying health coverage to non-discrimination based upon protected classifications.

As an APG member, you can access the bill tracker any time through our website to view our summaries, comment letters, the individual bill status, and the bill text. We will begin reporting on specific bills in the coming weeks and we always welcome your input on pending legislation.



### **APG Submits Written Comments On DMHC Claims Payment All Plan Letter**

The Department of Managed Health Care has issued a draft All Plan Letter (APL) concerning the implementation of last year's AB 3275, which shortened the time period for payment of clean claims to 30 calendar days. Our comments were informed by APG members and can be downloaded [here](#).



### **2025 APG California Policy & Advocacy Meeting Dates**

*Members, please mark your calendars for APG's California Policy Forum and California Medi-Cal Forum meetings. You can download APG's 2025 events calendar [here](#).*

**California Policy Forum**

**2:00 - 3:00 pm**

- April 10
- June 12
- November 12

**California Medi-Cal Forum**

**10:30 am - 12:30 pm**

- May 20
- October - TBD



**APG California Advocacy Member Resources**

- **Tracked Health Care Bills [2025-26](#):** bills we're following in the California State Legislature
- **Digital Exchange Framework** [APG member tool kit](#), [QHIO webinar](#) and [DxF Program summary slide deck](#)
- **Office of Health Care Affordability** [regulations](#) and [explanatory slide deck](#)
- APG, Moss Adams, Sheppard Mullin **CMIR Regulation** [webinar](#) and [slides](#)
- **DMHC SB 510** [All Plan Letter](#) on Health Plan payment responsibilities
- **DMHC Quality and Equity Reporting** program [All Plan Letter](#)
- **DHCS Medi-Cal Medical Loss Ratio** [Implementation Summary](#)
- **DHCS Medi-Cal Connect** [Population Health Program](#) Information

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**For more news and resources, please visit APG's [website](#) or contact a member of APG's California advocacy team.**

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