

  
September 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:

- 2025 California [Legislative Floor Session](#) Ends September 12
- California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii Form "[West Coast Health Care Alliance](#)" On Vaccine Standards
- [Artificial Intelligence Legislation](#) Proceeds To The Floor For A Final Vote
- APG Publishes Issue Briefs: [Transforming Care For Duals](#) With Aligned Medicare Medi-Cal Plans In California
- 2025 APG California Policy & Advocacy [Meeting Dates](#)
- APG Partners With CVEEP To Provide Members With [Vaccine Related Resources](#)
- APG California Advocacy Member [Resources](#)



## 2025 California Legislative Floor Session Ends September 12

The California Legislature will adjourn its 2025 session on September 12, 2025, the final day for bills to pass. After that, the Governor will have until October 12, 2025, to sign or veto legislation. This year has been especially chaotic, with the normal legislative process repeatedly disrupted by fallout from federal policy shifts in health care, public safety, and the economy. Despite the turbulence, APG has stayed fully engaged. On behalf of our member physician organizations, we submitted [two new floor alerts](#) this week on SB 306 (Becker) and AB 512 (Harabedian). The most recent versions of [SB 306](#) and [AB 512](#) are available for review, but we expect to see one further round of amendments to SB 306 that have not yet been posted. We noted that the Governor's Department of Finance issued [two opposition reports](#) on both bills. Make of that what you will.

Meanwhile, [SB 363](#) (Wiener) was held in the Appropriations Committee and will not advance this year. APG opposed this measure, which would have imposed mandatory fines for independent medical review (IMR) overturns under the Knox-Keene Act.

We will continue to keep you informed of developments over the next week.



### **California, Oregon, Washington, And Hawaii Form “West Coast Health Care Alliance” On Vaccine Standards**

Three western states [announced](#) yesterday that they have formed an alliance to promote and develop standards to maintain safe and effective vaccination practices. Earlier today, Hawaii joined the party. APG has issued a [press release](#) on the announcement this afternoon applauding this effort. APG is engaged with the state government on recommendations for the further development and safeguarding of vaccine standards and coverage. More information on this effort soon. And just in, Hawaii has also joined the Alliance this afternoon.



### **Artificial Intelligence Legislation Proceeds To The Floor For A Final Vote**

[AB 1018](#) (Bauer-Kahan) Artificial Intelligence: Automated Decision Making Systems. AB 1018 seeks to impose several new requirements and restrictions on developers and deployers of “automated decision-making systems (ADS) that make “consequential decisions.” Consequential decisions are specifically defined in AB 1018 as including health care services. The broad definitions contained in AB 1018, and the specific inclusion of health care services, raise many concerns about the new costs and administrative burdens that would be associated with the implementation of AB 1018.

Last week, AB 1018 passed off the Senate Appropriations Committee’s suspense file on a party-line vote of 5-2. Even though Senate Appropriations identified costs in the \$10s of millions to the State of California without any amendments. AB 1018 will now be considered by the full California State Senate. Attached is the [Senate Floor analysis](#). APG continues to have an [Oppose Unless Amended](#) position on AB 1018 and is working with a coalition of other health care entities, including hospitals and plans, seeking an exemption for the health care industry.



## **APG Publishes Issue Briefs: Transforming Care For Duals With Aligned Medicare Medi-Cal Plans In California**

APG is excited to share a series of three issue briefs focused on how capitated and delegated medical providers, health plans, and state policymakers can collaborate to effectively transform care for California's Duals (those eligible for both Medicare and Medi-Cal) through the implementation of aligned D-SNPs.

APG developed these issue briefs from focus groups and interviews conducted between September 2024 and January 2025 with 20 APG members who serve more than 200,000 Duals in California. Each brief focuses on a specific audience: 1) California policymakers, 2) health plans, and 3) medical providers. The series amplifies the care experience of accountable physician organizations, shares insights with key stakeholders, and addresses improvement opportunities that support the successful implementation of CalAIM's aligned D-SNPs.

APG thanks its participating member organizations and leaders, our project partner, [Transform Health, LLC](#), and our project sponsor, the [California Health Care Foundation](#).

Click [here](#) to access this issue brief series.



## **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**

- November 12

### **California Medi-Cal Forum**

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

- October - TBD



## **APG Partners With CVEEP To Provide Members With Vaccine Related Resources**

APG has partnered with [Champions for Vaccine Education, Equity and Progress \(CVEEP\)](#) to provide APG members with consumer-facing materials to assist with vaccine outreach and education in patient communications during the upcoming respiratory virus season. Please access tailored materials for APG members [here](#).



#### 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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