



December 19, 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 2026 Member Meeting Dates](#) Posted
- [Looking Ahead To 2026](#)
- Governor Newsom Establishes New Council To Promote The Responsible Use Of Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- APG California Policy & Advocacy [2026 Meeting Dates](#)
- APG California Advocacy Member [Resources](#)



APG 2026 Member Meeting Dates Posted

As we close out 2025 and look ahead to next year, the 2026 APG member meeting dates are now [available](#). California-based members are encouraged to take advantage of APG's robust schedule of committees and forums designed to support policy engagement, operational insight, and peer collaboration.

Our **California Policy Forum** will continue to focus on legislative and regulatory developments shaping the state's health care landscape. The **California Medi-Cal Forum** offers monthly updates and discussion opportunities for members serving California's most vulnerable beneficiaries. APG's **Pharmacy Forum** continues to benefit from strong California participation, while the **Restricted Licensee Forum** provides a dedicated space for members operating in the global capitation market.



Looking Ahead to 2026

Looking ahead to 2026, the California Legislature is expected to maintain its focus on artificial intelligence, access to care, and health care

affordability. The year will also be a consequential election cycle, with statewide constitutional offices on the ballot and 100 of the Legislature's 120 seats up for election. Congressional redistricting approved by voters under November's Proposition 50 is likely to withstand ongoing legal challenges, potentially placing five additional incumbent seats into competitive races.

In Sacramento, 2026 will mark the final year of the Newsom Administration, likely bringing leadership transitions across key departments and agencies. Governor Newsom will release his January preliminary budget early in the year amid significant fiscal pressures. The state continues to face challenges in maintaining a stable Medi-Cal program, and Covered California may confront additional strain should federal subsidy support decline.

Throughout the year ahead, APG will remain a strong advocate for our members and their critical role in preserving and expanding access to affordable, high-quality care—delivering the right care, at the right time, in the right place.

The California Update will be on hiatus until January 9, 2026. Thank you to our APG members for your continued commitment to improving the health of Californians. It is an honor and a privilege to serve you. Best wishes for a happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.



Governor Newsom Establishes New Council To Promote The Responsible Use Of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

This week, California Governor Newsom announced the creation of the “California Innovation Council” to promote “responsible AI.” According to the Governor’s announcement, the council will leverage “the collective knowledge of the nation’s top tech policy experts to help California develop and strengthen its technology policy. The council will tackle issues ranging from empowering workers to countering tech fraud to protecting children online. Participants include former U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler, the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered AI, UC Office of the President and UC Berkeley, Mozilla Foundation, the Brookings Institute, the California Chamber of Commerce...” Additional information regarding the California Innovation Council can be found [here](#).

Governor Newsom’s announcement comes at the same time of President Trump’s signing of [Executive Order 14192, “Ensuring a National Policy Framework for Artificial Intelligence,”](#) on December 11, 2025. Among other things, the Executive Order calls for a “minimally burdensome national framework” to promote AI development in the United States. The Executive Order also criticizes state-by-state regulation of AI as a burdensome obstacle to AI development.



2026 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 2026 events calendar [here](#).

California Policy Forum

2:00 - 3:00 pm

- February 5
- April 9
- June 3
- December 3

California Medi- Cal Forum

4:00 - 5:00 pm

- January 13
- February 10
- March 10
- April 14
- May 12
- June 9
- August 11
- October 13
- November 10
- December 8



APG California Advocacy Member Resources

- [2025 Legislative Implementation Guide](#)
- **Tracked Health Care Bills [2025-26](#):** bills we’re following in the California State Legislature

- November 2025 IHA Provider Directory webinar [recording](#)
- **Office of Health Care Affordability** [regulations](#) and [explanatory slide deck](#)
- **DMHC Quality and Equity Reporting** program [All Plan Letter](#)

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

William Barcellona, EVP of Government Affairs..... wbarcellona@apg.org

David Gonzalez, Senior Legislative Advocate..... dgonzalez@apg.org

Norma Springsteen, Administrative Coordinator.... nspringsteen@apg.org



This message was sent to nspringsteen@apg.org from:
America's Physician Groups
611 N. Brand Blvd., Ste. 1300, Glendale, CA 91203

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe or to change your subscription preferences.