

WHY SB 810 IS GOOD FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

Freedom to make decisions

SB 810 will eliminate the role of insurance companies in making healthcare decisions. No longer will physicians need to ask approval for tests or waste time figuring out what treatment options and pharmaceuticals are covered for each patient. Decision making will be returned to healthcare providers and their patients.

Fewer administrators, more health care providers

Hospitals and medical offices currently employ teams of administrators to bill dozens of insurance companies every month. With one insurer to bill, these groups will refocus their staffing to include more healthcare providers and fewer administrators. This will improve patient care and decrease potential for costly errors.

An end to uncompensated care

SB 810 would end uncompensated medical care by guaranteeing everyone has access to a payer. Hospitals and physicians would no longer need to argue with insurance companies for timely, adequate compensation.

Improved re-imbusement

The bill could also improve physician reimbursement. With so many different coverage plans, doctors are fragmented at the mercy of insurance companies. Under a single-payer system, physicians would pool together and effectively negotiate reimbursement rates and timely compensation. The bill would also end undercompensation for care of patients with Medicare and Medi-Cal.

Expanding practices

By covering every Californian, SB 810 would add approximately 7 million new, regular patients to medical practices and hospitals across the state.

Continuity of care

Universal coverage would increase continuity of care. Patients will no longer be forced to join another medical group or hospital when they switch jobs or their employers switch providers, which is good for both patient satisfaction and safety.

Lower malpractice costs

Universal health coverage will lower the cost of medical care in general and, therefore, while having no effect on punitive damages, will lower malpractice costs for direct reparative care and eliminate the extra costs associated with caring for uninsured plaintiffs.

Ensure adequate health care workforce

SB810 will help address the nursing crisis. Under the bill, the Commissioner is mandated to establish a budget to support the development and training of a health system workforce that is sufficient to meet the health care needs of the population. This would include assuring that adequate numbers of nurses were trained and available to maintain quality of care standards.