



Western Occupational & Environmental Medical Association
A Component Society of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine

June 23, 2008

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California State Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95815

SENATE FLOOR ALERT: AB 2969 (Lieber)
WOEMA Position: Support

Dear Senator,
The Western Occupational and Environmental Medical Association (WOEMA) urges you to support AB 2969 (Lieber) when it comes up on the Senate Floor.

WOEMA is the regional component of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM), and our members include physicians who participate in California's Workers' Compensation system as primary treating physicians, medical directors, and providers of independent medical and utilization review.

We join our fellow provider organizations in urging your support for AB 2969, which limits performance of utilization review in Worker's Compensation to physicians licensed within California. We believe such a limitation is appropriate, given the complexity of California's Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule and use of hybrid treatment guidelines. Furthermore, we believe that in-state UR is already intended under current statute, and that the recent practice by some carriers of conducting out-of-state UR represents an inappropriate, overly expansive interpretation of existing law.

WOEMA urges you to support AB 2969 to help ensure that utilization review is performed by knowledgeable and accountable physicians. We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Schumann
Legislative Chair