

2016 WOEMA Bills FINAL

BILL	SUBJECT	STATUS	COMMENTS	WOEMA
AB 1244 (Gray)	Suspends physicians from practicing in Workers' Compensation if convicted of felony fraud or abuse or if suspended from Medi-Cal or Medicare	Signed		Support
AB 1643 (Gonzalez)	Prohibits gender bias in apportionment	Vetoed	Proposal resurrected from last year. Employers urging it be changed to study bill	Oppose/ lacks evidence base
AB 2086 (Cooley)	Restores ability of neuropsychologists to serve as QMEs.	Vetoed		Support
AB 2272 (Thurmond)	Requires Cal/OSHA to develop standards for airborne contaminants in surgical settings	Vetoed		
AB 2407 (Chavez)	Would list treatment options for back injury in Labor Code	Asm Insurance voted to retain in committee	Intended to encourage options other than opioids	Watch/ Oppose if it advances. Treatment options covered in MTUS
AB 2503 (Oberholte)	Physicians must be informed where to send Requests for Authorization (RFAs)	Signed	COA sponsor; Amended 4/29 to clarify that RFAs must sent to the claims administrator	Support
AB 2577 (Chu)	Presumption for firefighters to include asthma and other respiratory illnesses.	Asm Insurance; postponed		Oppose/ lacks evidence base
AB 2883 (Committee)	Amended to eliminate requirement that CHSWC to study feasibility of digital UR process and whether it would improve physician-to-physician communication	Signed	Amended to clarify specific exceptions (e.g., directors of LLC) to WC mandate.	
SB 323 (Hernandez)	Establishes NP independent practice	Failed in Asm B&P	2-year bill	Watch
SB 482 (Lara)	As amended, requires prescribers to consult CURES before prescribing controlled substances. Requirements would apply only after DOJ determines CURES is fully operational	Signed	CMA is Oppose unless amended	Watch
SB 538 (Block)	Loosens supervision of naturopaths	Assembly Floor	Resurrected in 8/16. WOEMA joined CMA coalition. Failed on Floor 20-28 (32 not voting)	Oppose
SB 563 (Pan)	Amended to prohibit prohibit payment for UR based on denials and to clarify that AD can	Asm Floor	2-year bill; incorporated into SB 1160	Watch

	review payment agreements			
SB 914 (Mendoza)	Clean-up bill to remove specific references to ACOEM guidelines in Labor Code	Signed	References to ACOEM and other treatment guidelines all contained in the regulation (MTUS)	Watch
SB 1073 (Monning)	As amended, requires DPH to update regulations for lead-related construction work	Signed	Unclear on compatibility with pending revision to CA lead standard; amended into an unrelated tax bill	Watch
SB 1100 (Monning)	Expands WOSHTEP to include training in occ health at UC clinics. Paid for via assessment on all medical & indemnity claims.	Sen Inactive File	WOEMA, Worksafe and UC discussing larger, broader effort in 2017	
SB 1160 (Mendoza)	Includes a variety of labor-supported UR reforms.	Signed	Main UR Reform bill	Support
SB 1167 (Leyva)	Requires heat standard for indoor workers	Signed		Support
SB 1175 (Mendoza)	Physicians must request payment within 12 months of date of service	Signed		Watch
SB 1177 (Galgiani)	Creates physician wellness program	Signed	CMA sponsor	Support
Arizona				
HB 2240 Work Comp	Allows change of judges/interest on penalties	Governor signed		
HB 2350 Occupational Disease/PTSD	Adds PTSD diseases that can arise out of employment for peace officers	House concurrence	Amended into a bill on counseling	