



Date : May 22, 2003
To : NJ State NAHU Board
From : Jack Kalosy, HIA, NJ State Legislative Chair

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Subject : May Legislative Report

1 Details on the PAC

Major Donations for the fiscal year 2002-2003.

Largest Individual Donation - Alex Petronella - \$1,000

Largest Donation by Northern Jersey Chapter - \$2,900

Platinum Level Contributors (in excess of \$200)

Central Jersey Chapter -	\$516
Monmouth/Ocean Chapter -	\$250
Northwest Chapter -	\$450
So. Jersey Chapter -	\$1,000
Jim Stenger	\$250
Charles Gartlan	\$240
David Mordo	\$200
NJAHU	\$200
Jack Kalosy	\$200
Joseph Torella	\$200

Gold Level Contributors (in excess of \$100)

Steve Russell -	\$160
Lisa Holck	\$100
Thomas Daniels	\$100
Staci Grant	\$100
Gail Adler	\$100

- We will have a new HIAPAC donation form shortly.

2 Current Legislative Environment

- Risk Pool Legislation Update – Paul Bent, Russ Bent and I attended a meeting with the Senate Democratic Committee and the Health and Commerce Section Chiefs on the Risk Pool Bill down in Trenton. The meeting was very productive but it was determined that the earliest the bill will be ready to be introduced is during the lame duck session in the fall 2003. We have heard that the majority of the carriers in the market do not support the bill. The bill faces an uphill battle in the Legislature as well. We are currently reviewing our position on this bill.
- Sen. Vitale and Coniglio have introduced a bill regulating Long Term Care based on the model NAIC bill. We support this bill.
- A bill before the Senate, S-2275, that will create a 17 member commission to review and make recommendations on mandates has cleared the Senate Health Committee on Monday May 19th, 2003.
- Our own Jim Stenger was elected Chairman of the SHE board. Congratulations Jim!

3 Events

- Amy Webb, Bonnie Pavulak (SNJ Legislative Chair) and I have a meeting scheduled with Senator Diane Allen in her office on May 22nd.
- Some of our LMT members attended a HealthSense meeting on May 7th.

This is the list of bills that the NJAHU Legislative team is tracking.
Health Underwriters Bill Tracking list (2002-2003)

Health Underwriters (2002-2003)

Bill: A374

Sponsors: Wisniewski (D19)

Summary: Requires health insurers to cover well baby visits during the first two years of life.

Related: 2002:S2095; 2000:A1692; 1998:A1939

Status: 01/08/2002 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee

History: 01/08/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: A909

Sponsors: Edwards (D34)

Summary: Prohibits HMO's from imposing certain restrictions regarding provision of health care services to enrollees.

Related: 2002:S962; 2000:A288; 2000:S899; 1998:A326; 1996:S734; 1996:A2499

Status: 01/08/2002 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee

History: 01/08/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: A915 Acs (ACS)

Sponsors: Edwards (D34); Weinberg (D37) +2

Summary: "New Jersey Health Care Consumer Information Act."

Related: 2002:S571; 2000:A2439; 2000:S575; 1998:S766

Status: 12/12/2002 - Substituted by another bill

History: 01/08/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

12/09/2002 - Reported out of committee with committee substitute, referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee. Reported out of committee, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee. Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.

12/12/2002 - Substituted by S-571 (SCS).

Position: Monitor

Bill: A1019

Sponsors: Connors, C. (R9); Moran (R9) +2

Summary: Requires that chiropractors and physicians be reimbursed at same rate under various health and accident plans.

Related: 2000:A1883; 1998:A411; 1996:A2955

Status: 01/08/2002 - Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee

History: 01/08/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee.

Position: Oppose

Bill: A1369

Sponsors: Corodemus (R11)

Summary: Requires HMOs and small employer health benefits plans that cover routine foot care to permit podiatric physicians to provide such services.

Related: 2000:A1205; 1998:A1400; 1996:A2905

Status: 01/08/2002 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee

History: 01/08/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: A1371

Sponsors: Corodemus (R11)

Summary: Defines routine foot care services under an insurance policy.

Related: 2000:A1941; 2000:S787

Status: 01/08/2002 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee

History: 01/08/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: A1392
Sponsors: Doria (D31)
Summary: Revises operations of Individual Health Coverage and Small Employer Health Benefits programs.
Related: 2000:A1606; 2000:S728; 1998:A3569; 1998:S2216
Status: 01/08/2002 - Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee
History: 01/08/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee.
Priority: Support if Amended

Bill: A1715
Sponsors: Friscia (D19)
Summary: Prohibits hospital from denying admission or services to patient based on patient's HMO coverage, and requires HMO's to cover legitimate emergency health care.
Related: 2002:S537; 2000:A131; 2000:S750; 1998:A3429
Status: 02/04/2002 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee
History: 02/04/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.
Position: Monitor

Bill: A1778 Aca (1R)
Sponsors: Weinberg (D37); Sarlo (D36) +4
Summary: "Health Care Claims Payment Responsibility Act."
Related: 2002:S486; 2000:A1656; 2000:S370; 1998:A2626; 1998:S1455
Status: 11/25/2002 - Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee
History: 02/11/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.
11/25/2002 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee.
Position: Monitor

Bill: A1890
Sponsors: Cohen (D20) +1
Summary: "Health and Dental Claims Authorization, Processing and Payment Act."
Status: 02/21/2002 - Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee
History: 02/21/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee.
Position: Oppose

Bill: A1897 Aca (1R)
Sponsors: Weinberg (D37); Quigley (D32) +4
Summary: Allows covered persons with out-of-network benefits in dental and health service corporations and dental plan organization plans to assign dental benefits to dentist of choice.
Related: 2002:S1409; 2000:A2168; 2000:S1290; 1998:A1658; 1998:S772; 1996:A2810; 1996:S1915
Status: 05/09/2002 - 2nd reading in the Assembly
History: 02/21/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee.
05/09/2002 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.
Position: Monitor

Bill: A1933
Sponsors: Vandervalk (R39); Weinberg (D37) +7
Summary: Requires Medicaid coverage of HIV drug resistance testing.
Related: 2002:A2444; 2002:S2256
Status: 10/21/2002 - Combined with another bill
History: 02/28/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.
10/21/2002 - Combined with A-2444.
Position: Monitor

Bill: A2356
Sponsors: Bodine (R8); Chatzidakis (R8) +1
Summary: Creates commission to study ways to increase insurance competition in New Jersey.
Related: 2002:S1539
Status: 05/16/2002 - Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee
History: 05/16/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee.

Bill: A2357
Sponsors: Fisher (D3)
Summary: Requires HMO's to provide standing referrals for specialists to enrollees with chronic illnesses or conditions.

Status: 05/16/2002 - Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee
 History: 05/16/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee.
 Position: Monitor

 Bill: A2444 AcsAca (ACS/1R)

Sponsors: Roberts (D5); Greenwald (D6); Vandervalk (R39); Weinberg (D37) +10

Summary: Requires Medicaid coverage of HIV drug resistance testing.

Related: 2002:A1933; 2002:S2256

Status: 05/08/2003 - Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee

History: 06/13/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

10/21/2002 - Reported out of committee with committee substitute, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.

12/09/2002 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

03/03/2003 - Passed in Assembly 79-0-0.

03/10/2003 - Received in Senate and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

05/08/2003 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Senate. Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

Position: Monitor

 Bill: A2487 Acs (ACS)

Sponsors: Weinberg (D37); Johnson (D37); Previte (D6) +11

Summary: Revises statutory mental health coverage requirements and requires all health insurers to cover alcohol and drug addiction treatment under same terms and conditions as for other diseases or illnesses.

Related: 2002:S1633

Status: 02/27/2003 - Assembly Appropriations Committee

History: 06/17/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

02/27/2003 - Reported out of committee with committee substitute, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position: Monitor

 Bill: A2503

Sponsors: Wisniewski (D19) +2

Summary: Redirects \$125 million in payroll taxes from UI Fund to Health Care Subsidy Fund.

Related: 2002:S1628

Status: 06/30/2002 - Bill or Resolution Signed by the Governor

History: 06/06/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee. Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.

06/13/2002 - Passed in Assembly 45-33-0. Received in Senate and referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

06/20/2002 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Senate.

06/24/2002 - Substituted for S-1628. Passed in Senate and sent to Governor 37-0.

06/30/2002 - Signed by the Governor P.L.2002, c.29.

Position: Monitor

 Bill: A2759 Aca (1R)

Sponsors: Weinberg (D37); Ahearn (G38) +2

Summary: Provides in-network benefits to patient with disability for services provided by out-of-network provider under certain circumstance.

Related: 2002:S1919

Status: 05/15/2003 - Passed in the Assembly

History: 09/19/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

10/21/2002 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.

03/10/2003 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.

05/15/2003 - Passed in Assembly 77-0-0.

Position: Monitor

 Bill: A2926

Sponsors: Cohen (D20) +1

Summary: Requires managed care carriers to provide certain physicians with fee schedules.

Related: 2002:S317; 2000:A3952; 2000:S1735

Status: 10/21/2002 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee

History: 10/21/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

Position: Monitor

 Bill: A3097

Sponsors: Vandervalk (R39)

Summary: Permits continued NJ FamilyCare eligibility for parent whose child turns 19 under certain circumstances.

Related: 2002:S2104

Status: 12/16/2002 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee

History: 12/16/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: A3137

Sponsors: Roberts (D5); Weinberg (D37); Vandervalk (R39) +1

Summary: Establishes the Mandated Health Benefits Advisory Commission.

Related: 2002:S2275; 2000:A2479

Status: 12/16/2002 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee

History: 12/16/2002 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

Position: Support

Priority: Support if Amended

Bill: A3157 Aca (1R)

Sponsors: Weinberg (D37); Conaway (D7) +1

Summary: Establishes voluntary Statewide physician joint purchasing alliance.

Related: 2002:S2266

Status: 02/03/2003 - 2nd reading in the Assembly

History: 01/14/2003 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

02/03/2003 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

Position: Oppose

Bill: A3289

Sponsors: Burzichelli (D3); Fisher (D3); Johnson (D37) +1

Summary: Establishes New Jersey Rx Program to reduce prescription drug prices.

Related: 2002:S2331

Status: 02/04/2003 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee

History: 02/04/2003 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: A3318 AcaSca (2R)

Sponsors: Cohen (D20); Bateman (R16)

Summary: Clarifies certain rating provisions for small employers health benefits purchasing alliance policies.

Status: 05/15/2003 - 2nd reading in the Senate

History: 02/10/2003 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee.

03/10/2003 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

03/13/2003 - Passed in Assembly 78-0-0.

03/17/2003 - Received in Senate and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

05/15/2003 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Senate.

Position: Monitor

Bill: A3371

Sponsors: Stender (D22); Gear (D14) +1

Summary: Requires health insurers to provide health benefits coverage for treatment of pathological gambling.

Status: 02/27/2003 - Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee

History: 02/27/2003 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee.

Position: Oppose

Priority: Oppose Actively

Bill: S317

Sponsors: Matheussen (R4)

Summary: Requires managed care carriers to provide certain physicians with fee schedules.

Related: 2002:A2926; 2000:A3952; 2000:S1735

Status: 01/08/2002 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 01/08/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: S486

Sponsors: Vitale (D19); Matheussen (R4) +16

Summary: "Health Care Claims Payment Responsibility Act."

Related: 2002:A1778; 2000:A1656; 2000:S370; 1998:A2626; 1998:S1455

Status: 01/08/2002 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 01/08/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: S571 Scs (SCS)

Sponsors: Codey (D27); Vitale (D19); Edwards (D34); Weinberg (D37) +3

Summary: "New Jersey Health Care Consumer Information Act."

Related: 2002:A915; 2000:A2439; 2000:S575; 1998:S766

Status: 01/27/2003 - Received in the Senate

History: 01/08/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

05/30/2002 - Reported out of committee with committee substitute, 2nd reading in Senate.

06/20/2002 - Passed in Senate 38-0. Received in Assembly and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

12/09/2002 - Reported out of committee, referred to Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee. Reported out of committee, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee. Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.

12/12/2002 - Substituted for A-915 (ACS). Passed in Assembly and sent to Governor 77-0-0.

01/27/2003 - Governor's conditional veto rcvd in Senate.

Position: Monitor

Bill: S962

Sponsors: Turner (D15)

Summary: Prohibits HMO from imposing certain restrictions regarding provision of health care services to enrollees.

Related: 2002:A909; 2000:A288; 2000:S899; 1998:A326; 1998:S734; 1996:A2499

Status: 02/11/2002 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee

History: 02/11/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: S1409 Sca (1R)

Sponsors: Matheussen (R4); Inverso (R14) +1

Summary: Allows covered persons with out-of-network benefits in dental and health service corporations and dental plan organization plans to assign dental benefits to dentists of choice.

Related: 2002:A1897; 2000:A2168; 2000:S1290; 1998:A1658; 1998:S772; 1996:A2810; 1996:S1915

Status: 05/09/2002 - 2nd reading in the Senate

History: 03/26/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

05/09/2002 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Senate.

Position: Monitor

Bill: S1539

Sponsors: Bark (R8) +1

Summary: Creates commission to study ways to increase insurance competition in New Jersey.

Related: 2002:A2356

Status: 05/16/2002 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 05/16/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Bill: S1628

Sponsors: Bryant (D5); Kenny (D33)

Summary: Redirects \$125 million in payroll taxes from UI Fund to Health Care Subsidy Fund.

Related: 2002:A2503

Status: 06/24/2002 - Substituted by another bill

History: 06/06/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

06/20/2002 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Senate.

06/24/2002 - Substituted by A-2503.

Position: Monitor

Bill: S1919

Sponsors: Allen (R7)

Summary: Provides in-network benefits to patient with disability for services provided by out-of-network provider under certain circumstances.

Related: 2002:A2759

Status: 09/30/2002 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee

History: 09/30/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: S2073

Sponsors: Bennett (R12)

Summary: Provides for continued health benefits coverage for certain persons covered under small employer health benefits plans in certain circumstances.

Status: 11/14/2002 - Senate Commerce Committee
History: 11/14/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.
Position: Support

Bill: S2095
Sponsors: Vitale (D19); Buono (D18)
Summary: Requires health insurers to cover well baby visits during the first two years of life.
Related: 2002:A374; 2000:A1692; 1998:A1939
Status: 11/18/2002 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee
History: 11/18/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.
Position: Monitor

Bill: S2104
Sponsors: Littell (R24)
Summary: Permits continued NJ FamilyCare eligibility for parent whose child turns 19 under certain circumstances.
Related: 2002:A3097
Status: 11/18/2002 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee
History: 11/18/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.
Position: Monitor

Bill: S2200
Sponsors: Girgenti (D35)
Summary: Requires health insurers, Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare to provide coverage for comprehensive program of pediatric feeding and swallowing services.
Related: 2002:A3146
Status: 01/09/2003 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee
History: 01/09/2003 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.
Position: Monitor

Bill: S2255
Sponsors: Buono (D18); Cardinale (R39)
Summary: Provides for inactive insurance producer licenses and the required hours of continuing education needed to renew a producer license.
Status: 01/23/2003 - Senate Commerce Committee
History: 01/23/2003 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.
Position: Monitor

Bill: S2256
Sponsors: Vitale (D19); Singer (R30)
Summary: Requires Medicaid coverage of HIV drug resistance testing.
Related: 2002:A1933; 2002:A2444
Status: 05/08/2003 - Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee
History: 01/23/2003 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.
05/08/2003 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Senate. Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.
Position: Monitor

Bill: S2275
Sponsors: Bennett (R12); Codey (D27) +4
Summary: Establishes the Mandated Health Benefits Advisory Commission.
Related: 2002:A3137; 2000:A2479
Status: 01/27/2003 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee
History: 01/27/2003 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.
Position: Support
Priority: Support if Amended

Bill: S2331
Sponsors: Sweeney (D3); Furnari (D36) +6
Summary: Establishes New Jersey Rx Program to reduce prescription drug prices.
Related: 2002:A3289
Status: 02/10/2003 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee
History: 02/10/2003 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.
Position: Monitor

Bill: S2532

Sponsors: Coniglio (D38); Vitale (D19)

Summary: Provides for the regulation of long-term care insurance.

Status: 05/15/2003 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 05/15/2003 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Position: Support

Bill: SCR25

Sponsors: Connors, L. (R9)

Summary: Memorializes Congress to enact legislation concerning prescription drug coverage through Medicare program.

Related: 2000:ACR100; 2000:SCR32; 1998:ACR187; 1998:SCR137

Status: 01/15/2002 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee

History: 01/15/2002 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

Position: Oppose

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Kalosy

NJ State Legislative Chair