



**Date:** August 19, 2004  
**To:** NJ State NAHU Board  
**From:** Jack Kalosy, HIA, NJ State Legislative Chair

**Telephone:** 732-643-7340  
**Facsimile:** 732-643-7444

**Subject:** August Legislative Report

### **1. Details on the PAC**

- We need additional Fundraisers for the PAC.
- The HIAPAC lapel pins have been delivered and are ready for distribution. If you have donated more than \$100 to the PAC you are entitled to a pin.

### **2. Current Legislative Environment**

- The NJ State Legislature is in recess for the remainder of the summer so this month's Report will be light this month.
- Governor McGreevey announced his resignation from office on August 12, 2004. He announced that he would leave office on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Democratic Senate President, Richard Codey is scheduled to take over the office of Governor on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004. There is an awful lot of pressure on McGreevey to resign before September 3<sup>rd</sup> in order to allow NJ to elect the next Governor in the General Election already scheduled for November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004. The Governor appears prepared to weather the storm and remain in office past the September 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline in order to ensure that his party remains in power through to January 2006. This tempest is not going to have an impact on our legislative agenda unless the special election takes place on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and a Republican is elected Governor.
- The Governor signed a bill into law that adds a special temporary tax onto Health Insurance plans to fund charity care within the state on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2004. The new tax will increase Charity care funding to a total of \$583.4 million in the 2005 budget, this is a 53% increase from the 2004 expenditures. The \$202 million increase is the single largest increase in state hospital funding in more than a decade. Last year, hospitals received \$381 million in state reimbursements and 70% of the state's hospitals received as little as 12 cents from the State for every dollar of charity care they provided. Under the new formula, no hospital will receive less than 43 cents on the dollar for charity care payments and several hospitals will receive 96 cents for every dollar of care provided to uninsured patients. This increase in funding could have a positive impact on inner city's hospital budgets and could result in more rational increases in fees requested by those hospitals. This increase could have the undesired affect of making uninsured individuals more "comfortable" on the uninsured roles.
- Senator Singer has sponsored a bill (S-1572) the bill will allow 3.5:1 rate ratios in the Individual and SEH markets! The bill is currently assigned to the Senate Commerce Committee for hearing. Senator Singer has indicated that he intends to push this bill this fall. We are reaching out to a potential Democratic sponsor in the Assembly that has shown some interest. We are hopeful that a Democratic sponsor can be found and we can push this bill to passage during the fall of 2004. This bill represents another major contribution by the NJAHU to improving consumers access to Health Insurance.

### **3. Important Legislative Issues to address this Quarter**

- 3.5:1 rate ratios for the Individual and Group marketplace.
- Change the NJ Statutory Continuation to look like Federal COBRA.
- Add percentage of eligible employees participating in the group as a rating factor.

- We are looking into language in the NJ Producer Act that allows non-licensed entities to be paid a referral fee (AKA Rebating).
- Add Medicaid and "Family Care" as valid waivers under the NJ SEH plans.

#### **4. Event planning**

- We will be having our next Legislative Management Team meeting on Thursday September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Any member of the NJAHU who wishes to attend will be welcomed. Please let Dave Mordo or me know if you would like to attend.

#### **5. SEH Board Minutes:**

- The board meeting was very short this on July 21<sup>st</sup>. The only business was the review and passage of a number of riders for 3 carriers. The agenda was light, the only business was approving the riders that every carrier needs to have done for 10/1/04 SEH readoption. Oxford, Amerihealth and Horizon are the only three carriers that have filed riders for that readoption. All of the riders they sent in were approved by the board. Aetna sent in a rider to formally add the Domestic Partnership rider to their contracts. It was pointed out at the meeting that the rider was not necessary to effect the domestic partner rider.  
The next regular meeting is scheduled for 9/22/04 but the board will have to meet via telecon on August 25<sup>th</sup> to approve the outstanding riders for the carriers that didn't have their SEH readoption riders ready by the July 21st meeting. The riders must be approved prior to the 10/1/04 deadline.

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

**Health Underwriters (2004-2005)**

Bill: **A162**  
 Sponsors: Oliver (D34)  
 Summary: Revises operations of Individual Health Coverage and Small Employer Health Benefits programs.  
 Related: 2002:A1392; 2000:A1606; 2000:S728; 1998:A3569; 1998:S2216  
 Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee  
 History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.  
 Category: Health Underwriters

Bill: **A237**  
 Gregg (R24); O'Toole (R40) +9  
 Sponsor  
 s:  
 Summary: Allows certain self-employed business owners to deduct their own pension plan contributions from gross income under the gross income tax.  
 : 2002:A1593; 2002:S367; 2000:A3395; 2000:S1666; 2000:S1823  
 Related  
 :  
 Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Commerce and Economic Development  
 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Commerce and Economic  
 History Development.  
 :  
 Monitor  
 Positio  
 n:  
 Notes: 2-16-04 Monitor per Dave Mordo

Bill: **A296**

Vandervalk (R39); Cohen (D20)

Sponsors

:

Summary: Revises health wellness insurance benefits.

Related: 2004:S1300; 2002:A2412; 2002:S1746

Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial  
Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Oppose

Position

:

Notes: 3-17-04 Oppose per Jack Kalosy on the grounds that it increases  
benefits and removes the maximum on preventive care.

Bill: **A302**

Sponsors: Vandervalk (R39)

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

Related: 2004:S425; 2002:A3097; 2002:S2104

Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee

History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human  
Services Committee.

Position: Monitor

Bill: **A326**

Weinberg (D37); Quigley (D32) +3

Sponsors

:

Summary: Provides procedures for payment to out-of-network dentists when  
covered person receives payment directly from dental insurer.

Related: 2002:A1897; 2002:S1409; 2000:A2168; 2000:S1290; 1998:A1658; 1998:S772;  
1996:A2810; 1996:S1915

Status: 01/22/2004 - Withdrawn from the files

History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial  
Institutions and Insurance Committee.

01/22/2004 - Withdrawn from the files.

Monitor

Position

:

5  
Bill: **A333**  
Weinberg (D37); Johnson (D37); Previte (D6) +8

Sponsors:  
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.  
2002:A2487; 2002:S1633

Related:  
Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee  
01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.  
Monitor  
Position:

Bill: **A336**  
Weinberg (D37); Quigley (D32); Manzo (D31) +3

Sponsors:  
Summary: Provides in-network benefits to patient with disability for services provided by out-of-network provider under certain circumstance.  
Related: 2002:A2759; 2002:S1919  
Status: 03/22/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee  
History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.  
02/09/2004 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.  
03/11/2004 - Passed in Assembly 79-0-0.  
03/22/2004 - Received in Senate and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.  
Support

Position:  
:

Bill: **A340**  
Sponsors: Weinberg (D37); Conaway (D7); Manzo (D31) +1  
Summary: Establishes voluntary Statewide physician joint purchasing alliance.  
Related: 2002:A3157; 2002:S2266  
Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee  
History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.  
Position: Oppose

**Bill: A637**  
**Sponsors:** Stender (D22)  
**Summary:** Requires health insurers to provide health benefits coverage for treatment of pathological gambling.  
**Related:** 2002:A3371  
**Status:** 01/13/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee  
**History:** 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.  
**Position:** Oppose

**Bill: A717**  
**Sponsors:** Bodine (R8); Chatzidakis (R8)  
**Summary:** Creates commission to study ways to increase insurance competition in New Jersey.  
**Related:** 2002:A2356; 2002:S1539  
**Status:** 01/13/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee  
**History:** 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

**Bill: A912**  
 Connors, C. (R9); Rumpf (R9)

**Sponsors:**

**Summary:** Requires health insurers to cover Lyme disease.

**Related:** 2004:S1308; 2002:A984; 2002:A1328; 2000:A690; 2000:A994; 2000:S626; 1998:A392; 1998:S915; 1996:A1004; 1996:S861; 1994:A849; 1994:S271; 1992:A2553; 1992:S1297

**Status:** 01/13/2004 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee  
 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

**Position:** Oppose

**Notes:** 3-17-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo on the grounds that it allows coverage for "experimental" treatment which could be costly

Bill: **A947 Acs (ACS)**

Impreveduto (D32); Cohen (D20); Rumpf (R9); Connors, C. (R9) +4

Sponsor  
s:

Requires that chiropractic physicians, podiatric physicians, allopathic  
Summary physicians, and osteopathic physicians be reimbursed at same rate as  
: other health care providers under various health and accident plans.  
2004:S1690; 2002:A1019; 2002:S2815; 2000:A1883; 1998:A411; 1996:A2955

Related  
:

Status: 05/27/2004 - 2nd reading in the Assembly  
01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions

History and Insurance Committee.

: 05/13/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee substitute,  
referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.  
05/27/2004 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.  
Oppose

Positio  
n:

Health Underwriters

Categor  
y:

Bill: **A1080**

Sponsors: Cryan (D20); Barnes (D18); Chiappone (D31) +1

Summary: "New Jersey Identity Theft Prevention Act".

Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Consumer Affairs

History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Consumer Affairs.

Position: Monitor

Notes: 5-16-04 Monitor per Dave Mordo.

Bill: **A1104**  
Corodemus (R11)

Sponsors:

Summary: Requires HMOs and small employer health benefits plans that cover routine foot care to permit podiatric physicians to provide such services.  
: 2002:A1369; 2000:A1205; 1998:A1400; 1996:A2905

Related

:  
Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee  
01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

:  
Monitor

Position:

Bill: **A1106**  
Sponsors: Corodemus (R11)  
Summary: Defines routine foot care services under an insurance policy.  
Related: 2004:S692; 2002:A1371; 2002:S2715; 2000:A1941; 2000:S787  
Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee  
History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.  
Position: Monitor

Bill: **A1520**  
Sponsors: Conaway (D7)  
Summary: Requires health insurers to cover costs of tobacco use cessation services.  
Related: 2002:A3855  
Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee  
History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.  
Position: Oppose  
Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo

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Bill: **A1522**  
Conaway (D7)

Sponsor  
s:

Summary Prevents managed care plan from denying coverage for certain health  
: care services provided to covered person solely because covered person  
: did not present referral to provider who performed services.  
2002:A3913

Related

:  
Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee  
01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions  
History and Insurance Committee.

:  
Monitor

Positio

n:  
12-14-03 Added as monitor per Dave Mordo.

Comment  
s:

Bill: **A1574**  
Pou (D35); Steele (D35)

Sponsor  
s:

Summary Requires health insurers, Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare to provide  
: coverage for comprehensive program of pediatric feeding and swallowing  
: services.  
2004:S528; 2002:A3146; 2002:S2200

Related

:  
Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee  
01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions  
History and Insurance Committee.

:  
Monitor

Positio

n:

10

Bill: **A1593 Acs (ACS)**

Burzichelli (D3); Fisher (D3); Johnson (D37); Cohen (D20) +4

Sponsors

:

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

Related: 2004:S590; 2002:A3873; 2002:S2752

Status: 06/14/2004 - Assembly Appropriations Committee

History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

06/14/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee substitute, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Monitor

Position

:

11-28-03 Added as monitor per Dennis Cuccinelli.

Comments 12-13-03 Added as monitor per Dave Mordo.

:

Bill: **A1834 Aca (1R)**

Green (D22); Cryan (D20) +15

Sponsor

s:

Summary Requires health care facilities to report certain information about their health care staff to their respective professional boards or DHSS.

:

2004:S649; 2002:A4054; 2002:S2851

Related

:

Status: 05/27/2004 - 2nd reading in the Assembly

01/22/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

History

:

05/27/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

Monitor

Position

n:

11

Bill: **A1883**

Oliver (D34) +2

Sponsors:

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.

2002:A1715; 2002:S537; 2000:A131; 2000:S750; 1998:A3429

Related

Status: 01/22/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee  
01/22/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Monitor

Position:

Bill: **A1911 Aca (1R)**

Weinberg (D37); Manzo (D31) +3

Sponsors:

Summary: Requires health care providers to offer parents of infants option to screen for disorders for which State does not require screening.

2004:S840; 2002:A3875

Related

Status: 05/05/2004 - Bill or Resolution Signed by the Governor  
01/22/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee. Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.  
02/05/2004 - Passed in Assembly 76-0-0.  
02/09/2004 - Received in Senate and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.  
03/01/2004 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Senate.  
03/22/2004 - Substituted for S-840. Passed in Senate and sent to Governor 39-0.  
05/05/2004 - Signed by the Governor P.L.2004, c.12.

Monitor

Position:

1-22-04 Added per Dave Mordo.

Comments:

12

Bill: **A1913 AcaAaAaAa (4R)**

Weinberg (D37); Vandervalk (R39); Gordon (D38) +1

Sponsor  
s:

Establishes Health Care Professional Regulation Study Commission and  
Summary requires certain State professional licensing boards to take certain  
: actions.  
2002:A3985

Related

:  
Status: 03/22/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee  
01/22/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human  
History Services Committee. Reported out of committee with committee  
: amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.  
02/05/2004 - Amended on Assembly floor, 2nd reading in Assembly  
(Weinberg).  
02/23/2004 - Amended on Assembly floor, 2nd reading in Assembly  
(Weinberg).  
03/11/2004 - Amended on Assembly floor, 2nd reading in Assembly  
(Weinberg).  
03/15/2004 - Passed in Assembly 77-2-0.  
03/22/2004 - Received in Senate and referred to Senate Commerce  
Committee.

Monitor

Positio  
n:

1-22-04 Added per Dave Mordo.

Comment  
s:

13

Bill: **A1914 Aca (1R)**

Weinberg (D37); Cohen (D20); Previte (D6)

Sponsor

s:

Requires small employer health insurance carriers to offer coverage for Summary treatment of infertility.

:

Status: 03/22/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee

01/22/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee. Reported out of committee with committee

History: amendments, referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

02/09/2004 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.

03/15/2004 - Passed in Assembly 72-6-1.

03/22/2004 - Received in Senate and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

Monitor

Position:

:

Bill: **A1954**

Van Drew (D1)

Sponsors

:

Summary: Prohibits insurer offering managed care plan from denying participation in its network to a health care provider willing to meet its contract terms.

Related: 2002:A3878

Status: 01/26/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 01/26/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Monitor

Position

:

12-14-03 Added as monitor per Dave Mordo.

Comments

:

14

Bill: **A1986 Aca (1R)**

Weinberg (D37); Gordon (D38); Manzo (D31); Cohen (D20) +1

Sponsors

:

Summary: Establishes "New Jersey Health Care Access Study Commission."

Status: 03/22/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee

History: 01/26/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

02/09/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

03/11/2004 - Passed in Assembly 74-5-0.

03/22/2004 - Received in Senate and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

Oppose

Position

:

Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo

Bill: **A2006**

Weinberg (D37)

Sponsors

:

Summary: Establishes voluntary Statewide joint purchasing alliance for persons covered by individual health benefits plans.

Related: 2002:A3621

Status: 01/26/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 01/26/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Oppose

Position

:

Notes: Oppose per Jack Kalosy on 6-10-03

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Bill: **A2014**

Cryan (D20); Chiappone (D31)

Sponsors

:

Summary: Requires health insurance coverage for hair headpieces for patients receiving chemotherapy treatment for cancer.

Related: 2004:S508; 2002:A637; 2002:S392; 2000:A3280; 2000:S1741

Status: 02/05/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 02/05/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Oppose

Position

:

Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo

Bill: **A2088 AcaAa (2R)**

Sponsors: Caraballo (D29); Vas (D19); Cruz-Perez (D5) +2

Summary: Clarifies that advertisements by licensed professionals are subject to the Consumer Fraud Act.

Status: 04/29/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Consumer Affairs.

02/26/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

03/11/2004 - Amended on Assembly floor, 2nd reading in Assembly (Caraballo).

03/15/2004 - Passed in Assembly 78-1-0.

03/22/2004 - Received in Senate w/o committee reference, 2nd reading in Senate.

04/29/2004 - Referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Position: Oppose

Bill: **A2116**

Sponsors: Cohen (D20); Manzo (D31)

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

Related: 2004:S1314; 2002:A2926; 2002:S317; 2000:A3952; 2000:S1735

Status: 02/09/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Position: Monitor

16

Bill: **A2117 Aca (1R)**

Cohen (D20); Weinberg (D37)

Sponsors

:

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

Related: 2004:S963; 2002:A3968; 2002:S2073

Status: 05/13/2004 - 2nd reading in the Assembly

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

05/13/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

Support

Position

:

Notes: 2-16-04 Change position from monitor to support per Dave Mordo  
12-14-03 Monitor per Dave Mordo.

Comments

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Bill: **A2162**

Sponsors: Gusciora (D15); Manzo (D31)

Summary: Requires health insurers to cover Hepatitis B vaccination costs.

Related: 2004:S686; 2002:A300; 2002:S498; 2000:A3530; 2000:S2413

Status: 02/09/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Position: Oppose

Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo

Bill: **A2168**

Sponsors: Diegnan (D18); Vas (D19); Manzo (D31) +1

Summary: Requires insurance coverage for magnetic resonance imaging for women at high risk for breast cancer.

Related: 2002:A4051

Status: 02/09/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Position: Support

Notes: 2-16-04 Change position from monitor to support per Dave Mordo

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Bill: **A2214 Aca (1R)**

Sponsors: Weinberg (D37); Manzo (D31); Gordon (D38) +1

Summary: "Patient Safety Act"; establishes medical error reporting system.

Related: 2004:S557; 2002:A3983; 2002:S2793

Status: 03/15/2004 - Substituted by another bill

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

03/04/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

03/15/2004 - Substituted by S-557 (SCS/1R).

Position: Support

Notes: 2-16-04 Support per Dave Mordo

Bill: **A2220**

Sponsors: Dancer (R30); Malone (R30)

Summary: Requires health insurers to provide coverage for hearing aids.

Related: 2004:S218; 2002:A2276; 2002:S864

Status: 02/09/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Position: Monitor

Notes: 2-16-04 Support per Dave Mordo

2-19-04 Change to monitor per Jack Kalosy

Bill: **A2260**

Sponsors: Wisniewski (D19); Conaway (D7) +1

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

Related: 2004:S688; 2002:A374; 2002:S2095; 2000:A1692; 1998:A1939

Status: 02/09/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Position: Support

18

Bill: **A2261 Sca (1R)**

Sponsors: Voss (D38); Greenstein (D14); Weinberg (D37); Roberts (D5); Cohen (D20) +10

:

Summary: Requires insurers and SHBP to cover mammograms for women under 40 under certain circumstances.

Related: 2004:S862; 2004:S1530

Status: 06/07/2004 - 2nd reading in the Senate

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

02/26/2004 - Reported out of committee, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.

03/04/2004 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.

03/11/2004 - Passed in Assembly 79-0-0.

03/22/2004 - Received in Senate and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

06/07/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Senate.

06/17/2004 - Senate, Select Committees; 1:00p Party Conferences; 2:00p

Schedule Voting Session.

d:

Support

Position

:

Notes: 2-16-04 Support per Dave Mordo

Bill: **A2292**

Sponsors: Conaway (D7)

Summary: Authorizes insurance coverage in a divorce action to continue regardless of whether custody is at issue.

Related: 2002:A3912

Status: 02/09/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Position: Monitor

Comments: 12-14-03 Added as monitor per Dave Mordo.

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Bill: **A2359**

Impreveduto (D32); Cohen (D20)

Sponsor  
s:

Summary Requires that chiropractic physicians, podiatric physicians, allopathic  
: physicians, and osteopathic physicians be reimbursed at same rate under  
: various health and accident plans.

Status: 05/13/2004 - Combined with another bill

History 02/23/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions  
and Insurance Committee.

: 05/13/2004 - Combined with A-947 (ACS).  
Oppose

Positio  
n:

Bill: **A2580**

Weinberg (D37); Johnson (D37)

Sponsor  
s:

Summary Establishes NJ-COBRA and provides for continuation of coverage in small  
: employer and larger group health plans for unlimited period of time to  
: qualified persons.

Status: 03/15/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History 03/15/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions  
and Insurance Committee.

:  
Oppose

Positio  
n:

Notes: 3-17-04 Oppose actively per Jack Kalosy.

Bill: **A2675**

Sponsors: Manzo (D31)

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

Related: 2004:S882; 2002:A909; 2002:S962; 2000:A288; 2000:S899; 1998:A326;  
1998:S734; 1996:A2499

Status: 05/06/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 05/06/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial  
Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Position: Monitor

Category: Health Underwriters

Bill: **A2816**  
 Sponsors: Weinberg (D37); Greenwald (D6)  
 Summary: Requires binding arbitration in contract disputes between hospitals and health insurance carriers.  
 Status: 05/13/2004 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee  
 History: 05/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.  
 Position: Monitor

Bill: **S218**  
 Sponsors: Singer (R30); Vitale (D19) +3  
 Summary: Requires health insurers to provide coverage for hearing aids.  
 Related: 2004:A2220; 2002:A2276; 2002:S864  
 Status: 01/13/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee  
 History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.  
 Position: Support  
 Notes: 2-16-04 Support per Dave Mordo

Bill: **S370**  
 Sponsors: Turner (D15); Bucco (R25) +3  
 Summary: Provides for regulation of certain call center communications by Division of Consumer Affairs.  
 Related: 2004:A840; 2002:A3529; 2002:S2611  
 Status: 01/13/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee  
 History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.  
 Position: Oppose

Bill: **S425**  
 Littell (R24)  
 Sponsors  
 :  
 Summary: Permits continued NJ FamilyCare eligibility for parent whose child turns 19 under certain circumstances.  
 Related: 2004:A302; 2002:A3097; 2002:S2104  
 Status: 01/13/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee  
 History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.  
 Monitor  
 Position  
 :

21

Bill: **S508**

Sacco (D32); Karcher (D12) +3

Sponsors

:

Summary: Requires health insurance coverage for hair headpieces for patients receiving chemotherapy treatment for cancer.

Related: 2004:A2014; 2002:A637; 2002:S392; 2000:A3280; 2000:S1741

Status: 01/13/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.  
Oppose

Position

:

Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo

Bill: **S528**

Girgenti (D35); Bucco (R25) +1

Sponsor

s:

Summary: Requires health insurers, Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare to provide coverage for comprehensive program of pediatric feeding and swallowing services.

2004:A1574; 2002:A3146; 2002:S2200

Related

:

Status: 01/13/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee

History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

:

Monitor

Position

n:

22

Bill: **S536**  
Vitale (D19) +15

Sponsors

:

Summary: "Health Care Claims Payment Responsibility Act."

Related: 2002:A1778; 2002:S486; 2000:A1656; 2000:S370; 1998:A2626; 1998:S1455

Status: 01/13/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens  
Committee

History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services  
and Senior Citizens Committee.

Monitor

Position

:

Health Underwriters

Category

:

Bill: **S552**  
Vitale (D19); Singer (R30)

Sponsors

:

Summary: Requires Medicaid coverage of HIV drug resistance testing.

Related: 2002:A1933; 2002:A2444; 2002:S2256

Status: 01/26/2004 - Withdrawn from the files

History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services  
and Senior Citizens Committee.

01/26/2004 - Withdrawn from the files.

Monitor

Position

:

23

Bill: **S557 ScsAca (SCS/1R)**

Vitale (D19); Girgenti (D35); Weinberg (D37); Manzo (D31); Gordon  
Sponsors (D38) +6

:

Summary: "Patient Safety Act"; establishes medical error reporting system.

Related: 2004:A2214; 2002:A3983; 2002:S2793

Status: 04/27/2004 - Bill or Resolution Signed by the Governor

History: 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services  
and Senior Citizens Committee.

01/26/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee substitute, 2nd  
reading in Senate.

02/23/2004 - Passed in Senate 39-0. Received in Assembly and referred  
to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

03/04/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd  
reading in Assembly.

03/15/2004 - Substituted for A-2214 (1R). Passed in Assembly 78-0-1.

03/22/2004 - Received in Senate, 2nd reading in Senate to concur with  
Assembly amendments.

03/29/2004 - Passed in Senate and sent to Governor 36-0.

04/27/2004 - Signed by the Governor P.L.2004, c.9.

Support

Position

:

Notes: 2-16-04 Support per Dave Mordo

Bill: **S649**

Kavanaugh (R16)

Sponsor

s:

Summary: Requires health care facilities to report certain information about  
their health care staff to their respective professional boards or  
DHSS.

2004:A1834; 2002:A4054; 2002:S2851

Related

:

Status: 01/26/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens  
Committee

History: 01/26/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services  
and Senior Citizens Committee.

:

Monitor

Positio

n:

Bill: **S686**  
Vitale (D19)

Sponsors  
:

Summary: Requires health insurers to cover Hepatitis B vaccination costs.

Related: 2004:A2162; 2002:A300; 2002:S498; 2000:A3530; 2000:S2413

Status: 01/26/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens  
Committee

History: 01/26/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services  
and Senior Citizens Committee.  
Oppose

Position  
:

Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo

Bill: **S688**  
Vitale (D19)

Sponsors  
:

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

Related: 2004:A2260; 2002:A374; 2002:S2095; 2000:A1692; 1998:A1939

Status: 01/26/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens  
Committee

History: 01/26/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services  
and Senior Citizens Committee.  
Support

Position  
:

Bill: **S840**  
Vitale (D19); Sarlo (D36)

Sponsors  
:

Summary: Requires health care providers to offer parents of infants option to  
screen for disorders for which State does not require screening.

Related: 2004:A1911; 2002:A3875

Status: 03/22/2004 - Substituted by another bill

History: 02/05/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services  
and Senior Citizens Committee.

03/01/2004 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Senate.

03/22/2004 - Substituted by A-1911 (1R).

Monitor

Position  
:

Bill: **S862 Scs (SCS)**

Karcher (D12); Codey (D27); Sarlo (D36); Buono (D18); Madden (D4) +2

## Sponsors

:

Summary: Requires insurers and SHBP to cover mammograms for women under 40 under certain circumstances.

Related: 2004:A2261; 2004:S1530

Status: 06/07/2004 - 2nd reading in the Senate

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

06/07/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee substitute, 2nd reading in Senate.

06/17/2004 - Senate, Select Committees; 1:00p Party Conferences; 2:00p Voting Session.

d:

Support

## Position

:

Notes: 2-16-04 Support per Dave Mordo

Bill: **S882**

Turner (D15)

## Sponsors

:

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

Related: 2004:A2675; 2002:A909; 2002:S962; 2000:A288; 2000:S899; 1998:A326; 1998:S734; 1996:A2499

Status: 02/09/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

Monitor

## Position

:

Health Underwriters

## Category

:

Bill: **S963 Aca (1R)**  
Singer (R30); Allen (R7)

Sponsors

:

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

Related: 2004:A2117; 2002:A3968; 2002:S2073

Status: 05/13/2004 - 2nd reading in the Assembly

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

03/08/2004 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Senate.

03/22/2004 - Passed in Senate 39-0.

05/03/2004 - Received in Assembly and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

05/13/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

Support

Position

:

12-14-03 Monitor per Dave Mordo.

Comments

:

Bill: **S1202**  
Bucco (R25)

Sponsors

:

Summary: Requires health insurers to provide coverage for prosthetic appliances obtained from any licensed prosthetist.

Related: 2002:S262; 2000:S1692

Status: 02/24/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 02/24/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Monitor

Position

:

Notes: 3-2-04 Monitor per Jack Kalosy

27

Bill: **S1259 Sca (1R)**

Kean, T. (R21); Scutari (D22)

Sponsors:

Summary: Provides that advertisements by persons licensed, registered, appointed or certified to practice profession or occupation are subject to consumer fraud act.

Status: 04/29/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee

02/24/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

History: 03/08/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Senate.

04/29/2004 - Referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Monitor

Position:

Bill: **S1300**

Buono (D18); Vitale (D19)

Sponsors:

Summary: Revises health wellness insurance benefits.

Related: 2004:A296; 2002:A2412; 2002:S1746

Status: 03/08/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee

History: 03/08/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

Oppose

Position:

Notes: 3-17-04 Oppose per Jack Kalosy on the grounds that it increases benefits and removes the maximum on preventive care.

28

Bill: **S1308**

Buono (D18)

Sponsors:

Requires health insurers to cover Lyme disease.

Summary

:

2004:A912; 2002:A984; 2002:A1328; 2000:A690; 2000:A994; 2000:S626;  
Related 1998:A392; 1998:S915; 1996:A1004; 1996:S861; 1994:A849; 1994:S271;  
: 1992:A2553; 1992:S1297

Status: 03/08/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens  
Committee

History: 03/08/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services  
and Senior Citizens Committee.

:

Oppose

Position:

:

Notes: 3-17-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo on the grounds that it allows coverage  
for "experimental" treatment which could be costly.

Bill: **S1314**

Sponsors: Buono (D18)

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

Related: 2004:A2116; 2002:A2926; 2002:S317; 2000:A3952; 2000:S1735

Status: 03/08/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 03/08/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Position: Monitor

29

Bill: **S1530**

Madden (D4); Sweeney (D3)

Sponsors

:

Summary: Requires health benefits coverage for annual mammograms for women under 40 under certain circumstances.

Related: 2004:A2261; 2004:S862

Status: 06/07/2004 - Combined with another bill

History: 04/29/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

06/07/2004 - Combined with S-862/S-1409 (SCS).

06/17/2004 - Senate, Select Committees; 1:00p Party Conferences; 2:00p

Schedule Voting Session.

d:

Support

Position

:

Bill: **S1572**

Sponsors: Singer (R30)

Summary: Concerns rating systems for individual and small employer health benefits plans.

Status: 05/10/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 05/10/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Position: Support

Notes: 5-11-04 Support per Jack Kalosy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Kalosy

NJ State Legislative Chair