



Date: June 16, 2004
To: NJ State NAHU Board
From: Jack Kalosy, HIA, NJ State Legislative Chair

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Subject: June 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

- Senator Singer's Mini-COBRA (S-963) bill has passed through the Senate. We have been pushing for this bill for two years now. The assembly version (A-2117) is sponsored by Assemblyman Neil Cohen and was heard in the Banking and Insurance Committee in May and was reported out on May 13th. We strongly **support** these versions of the "**mini-COBRA**". The legislature has two voting sessions left to vote on this bill before the summer break. The chances for passage prior to the break don't look good since the bill still has to go back to the Senate for concurrence after the assembly passes the bill. There is no known opposition to this bill.
- 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. We are actively searching for a Democratic sponsor in the Senate and Assembly. The National NAHU has created a press release for us to use in conjunction with this important bill. This bill represents another major contribution by the NJAHU to improving consumers access to Health Insurance.
- Jim Stenger spoke on behalf of the opposition to Association Health Plan legislation in a debate held at the HealthSense Spring conference. The conference was held in Trenton, NJ on June 8th, 2004. He debated against John Halub, State Director of the NFIB. As expected, Mr. Stenger delivered a fine performance by making a very clear case against the AHP's by pointing out the need to allow all plans the freedom to avoid state mandates like the ERISA pre-empted AHP's. The avoidance of State Mandates is the primary method that AHP's have to save the Association membership money. The creation of a two-pooled marketplace with separate benefits requirements would virtually destroy the current SEH marketplace.
- We also heard from Assembly Health Committee Chair, Loretta Weinberg at the HealthSense Spring conference and Senate Health Committee Chair, Joseph Vitale. They both spoke about the state of Health Care in NJ today. Sen. Vitale vowed to enact some major changes in the Health Care system before the end of the year. He alluded to changes in Kid Care and Family Care but would not elaborate. Both Health Chairs were asked by Kalosy if they would sponsor S-1572 (3.5:1 bill) with Senator Singer. Both expressed some lukewarm interest.
- The assembly Health Committee reviewed two bills on Monday June 14th. A-1593 (Burzichelli) Establishes New Jersey Rx Program to reduce prescription drug prices. (Monitor). A-2816 (Weinberg) Requires binding arbitration in contract disputes between hospitals and health insurance carriers. (Monitor)

A-1593 was released by the Health Committee and has been second referenced to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. A-2816 was held by the Health committee and is still pending.

- The Senate will be considering A-2261/S-862/S-1530 at their voting session on June 17th. These bills require insurers and the State Health Benefit Plan to cover mammograms for women under 40 under certain circumstances. The association currently supports this legislation.

If approved by the Senate this will go to the Assembly for a concurrence vote and then to the Governor for his consideration.

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 setting up a LMT meeting soon. A notice will be sent out shortly.

5. The next SEH Board Meeting will be held on June 21, 2004.

**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

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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

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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.
 Summary:
 :
 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
 History: 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

7

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:

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

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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.

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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
History Services Committee. Reported out of committee with committee
: 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

n:

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

15

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