



Date: May 20, 2004
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

- 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".
- 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.
- The Mandate Commission finally has some members. Unfortunately none of our fine recommendations were accepted. Here is a list of the members to date and the open positions:

Melanie Willoughby, Vice President, New Jersey Business and Industry Association, appointed by the Senate on March 8th.

Michael Richardson, M.D., representing the Medical Society of New Jersey, appointed by the Senate on March 8th. Public/Sen./NJBIA 03/08/08 Mercer

James Rhodes, Director of Legislative Policy and Communications, AmeriHealth, appointed by the Senate on March 8th. Public/Sen./Com. Health Ins. Co. 03/08/06 Camden

William Halperin, MD, Chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, appointed by the Governor on April 8th.

Edward Geisler, MBA, Executive Director of the Health Care Payers Coalition of New Jersey, appointed by the Governor on April 8th.

Maria Ambrosio, DMD, representing the New Jersey Dental Association, appointed by the Governor on April 8th.

Alice Guttler, Esq., Senior Vice President and General Counsel for CentraState Healthcare System, representing the New Jersey Hospital Association, appointed by the Governor on April 8th.

Carolyn Torre, RN, Director of Practice for the New Jersey State Nurses Association, appointed by the Governor on April 8th.

Joel Cantor, Director of the Center for State Health Policy at Rutgers University, appointed by the Governor on April 8th.

John Fanburg, Esq., who represents the Radiological Society of New Jersey, appointed by the Governor on April 8th.

Diane Allen, Republican Senator and a member of the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee, appointed by the Senate on March 8th.
Joseph Vitale, Democrat Senator and Chairman of the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee, appointed by the Senate on March 8th.

The Commissioners of Health and Senior Services, Human Services, and Banking and Insurance (or their designees) sit ex-officio on the Commission. All of the remaining appointments are in the hands of the State Assembly with the exception of a representative of the New Jersey Association of Health Plans who is appointed by the Governor.

The remaining Assembly appointments include:

- A Democrat Assembly Member
 - A Republican Assembly Member
 - A representative of a health services corporation
 - A physician
 - A representative of organized labor
- Please take a moment to take part in the “Adopt a Legislator” program. You can do so by agreeing to keep a legislator educated on our key issues. The “Adopt a Legislator” Program is being run by Dave Mordo. Please contact Dave and volunteer to work with your State or Federal Legislator.

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 for June. A notice will be sent out shortly.

5. SEH Board Meeting held on May 19, 2004

- The SEH readoption rules were discussed. The circumstance under which carriers may withdrawal certain plans was the focus of the minutes of the latest Legal Committee meeting.
- The Fourth Quarter 2003 SEH Enrollment report was released. Horizon still holds the #1 spot as of the end of 2003 with nearly 27% market share in the small group marketplace. Aetna gained significant ground but still holds the second position with over 26% market share. Guardian/Health Net holds the third place position with some net growth at 17% market share. The report also indicated that the fourth quarter SEH marketplace had net growth of three tenths of a percent quarter over quarter. There are 896,881 insured individuals in the SEH market as of the end of 2003.
- Neil Vance, the NJDOBI Actuary, addressed the board on the premium survey. The SEH premium Survey was revised to include percentage year over year premium increases. The two largest carriers had increases in the low single digits! Kalosy suggested that the HMO/POS survey include the \$1,000 deductible option starting next year in addition to the \$250 deductible option.
- The Domestic Partnership Act bulletin was released yesterday. It outlines the rules and obligations with regard to the act. It clarified coverage of dependents of the “domestic partner”. It allows non-small group carriers to adjust the rates based on the dependent coverage categories. The act requires carriers to offer the coverage of Domestic Partners but does not force the employer to cover their employee’s domestic partners.

**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
	Oliver (D34)
Sponsors	
:	
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.

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 Development.
History	
:	
	Monitor
Position:	
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**

Vandervalk (R39)

Sponsors

:

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.

Monitor

Position

:

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

:

Bill: A333

Weinberg (D37); Johnson (D37); Previte (D6) +8

Sponsor

:

Revises statutory mental health coverage requirements and requires

Summary 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

History 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

Weinberg (D37); Conaway (D7); Manzo (D31) +1

Sponsors

:

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.

Oppose

Position

:

Bill: A637

Stender (D22)

Sponsors

:

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.

Oppose

Position

:

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:

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
01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human

History: Services 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: A947 Acs (ACS)

Rumpf (R9); Connors, C. (R9) +5

Sponsors:

:

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

Related: 2002:A1019; 2002:S2815; 2000:A1883; 1998:A411; 1996:A2955

Status: 05/13/2004 - Assembly Appropriations Committee

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

05/13/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee substitute, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Oppose

Position:

:

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.

Summary:

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

History: Services Committee.

Position: Monitor

Position:**Bill: A1106**

Corodemus (R11)

Sponsors:

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.

Monitor

Position:

:

Bill: A1520

Conaway (D7)

Sponsors

:

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.
Oppose**Position**

:

Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo**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

History: Institutions and Insurance Committee.

:

Monitor

Position**n:**

Bill: A1574

Pou (D35); Steele (D35)

Sponsor

:

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

Summary

:

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

History

:

Monitor

Position

:

Bill: A1593

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:

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

History:

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

Monitor

Position

:

Bill: A1834

Green (D22); Cryan (D20) +14

Sponsor**s:**

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

Summary**:**

2004:S649; 2002:A4054; 2002:S2851

Related**:**

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

History Services Committee.

:

Monitor

Position:**n:****Bill: A1883**

Oliver (D34)

Sponsor**s:**

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.

Summary**:**

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

History Institutions and Insurance Committee.

:

Monitor

Position:**n:**

Bill: A1911 Aca (1R)

Weinberg (D37); Manzo (D31) +3

Sponsor**s:**

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

Summary**:**

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

History**:**

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

Positio**n:**

Bill: A1913 AcaAaAaAa (4R)

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

Sponsor**s:**

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

Summary

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

Position:**n:**

Bill: A1914 Aca (1R)

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

Sponsors:

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

Summary:

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

History:

01/22/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human 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:**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.

2002:A3878

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

Monitor

Position:

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

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Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo**Bill: A2006****Sponsors:** Weinberg (D37)**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.**Position:** Oppose**Notes:** Oppose per Jack Kalosy on 6-10-03**Bill: A2014****Sponsors:** Cryan (D20); Chiappone (D31)**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.**Position:** Oppose**Notes:** 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo

Bill: A2088 AcaAa (2R)

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

Sponsors

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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.

Oppose

Position

:

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

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.

2004:S963; 2002:A3968; 2002:S2073

Related

Status: 05/13/2004 - 2nd reading in the Assembly
02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial

History: 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

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

Bill: A2214 Aca (1R)

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

Sponsors

:

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).

Support

Position

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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

Bill: A2261

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

:

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

Related: 2004:S1530

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

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.

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

Bill: A2580

Weinberg (D37); Johnson (D37)

Sponsors:

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.

Position: Oppose

Position:

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

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****Sponsors:** Littell (R24)**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.**Position:** Monitor**Bill: S508****Sponsors:** Sacco (D32); Karcher (D12) +3**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.**Position:** Oppose**Notes:** 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo

Bill: S528

Girgenti (D35); Bucco (R25) +1

**Sponsor
s:**

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

**Summary
:**

2004:A1574; 2002:A3146; 2002:S2200

Related

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

01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human

History Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

Position: Monitor

**Position
n:****Bill: S536**

Sponsors: Vitale (D19) +15

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.

Position: Monitor

Bill: S552

Sponsors: Vitale (D19); Singer (R30)

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.

Position: Monitor

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

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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

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

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

History

:

Monitor

Position

:

Bill: S686**Sponsors:** Vitale (D19)**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.**Position:** Oppose**Notes:** 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo**Bill: S688****Sponsors:** Vitale (D19)**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.**Position:** Support**Bill: S840**

Vitale (D19); Sarlo (D36)

Sponsors

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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**

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Bill: S862

Sponsors: Codey (D27); Karcher (D12) +3
Summary: Requires insurers to cover mammograms for women under 40 under certain circumstances.
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.
Position: Support
Notes: 2-16-04 Support per Dave Mordo

Bill: S882

Sponsors: Turner (D15)
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.
Position: Monitor

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

Bill: S1202**Sponsors:** Bucco (R25)**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.**Position:** Monitor**Notes:** 3-2-04 Monitor per Jack Kalosy**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.

Bill: S1308

Buono (D18)

Sponsors:

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Requires health insurers to cover Lyme disease.

Summary:

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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

03/08/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human

History Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

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Oppose

Position:

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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**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