



Date: January 10, 2005
To: NJ State NAHU Board
From: Jack Kalosy, HIA, NJ State Legislative Chair

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Subject: January 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

- Acting Governor Richard J. Codey today unveiled an active gubernatorial agenda that builds upon his long-time commitment to protecting New Jersey's most vulnerable residents and strives to regain the public trust in government. His administration will stress:
 - IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
 - EXPANDING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE"The care of individuals with mental illness is only one aspect of our health care system that can be improved in the year ahead. More than a million New Jerseyans have no health insurance. I know we have a budget crisis. But that cannot be an excuse to do nothing. We must do something, and now."
 - * He plans to open 10 new community health centers that will serve an additional 30,000 residents.
 - * He also plans to open pharmacies at health centers to provide low cost prescription drugs.
- Assemblyman Cohen introduced A3583 on 12/9/2004 the bill was referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. This bill makes contributions made by or on behalf of an eligible individual that are deductible for federal income tax purposes deductible by the individual for NJ State gross income tax purposes. Your Legislative Management Team has developed a position paper on this bill and it will be distributed and posted to the web shortly.
- Senator Vitale introduced S-1912, this bill credits coverage under Medicaid and NJ "FamilyCare" towards employer's minimum participation rate under NJ Small Employer Health Benefits Program. The Senate with a vote of 40-0 released the bill. The association strongly supports this bill. This bill now goes to the Assembly Financial Institutions Committee where it will catch-up to its Assembly counterpart, A-3379 (Cohen). We will be pushing for that committee to consider these bills as quickly as possible.
- Senator Joseph F. Vitale and Assemblyman Robert Morgan, MD, announced on Wednesday that they will make it a priority to reform New Jersey's FamilyCare health insurance system in 2005, to increase participation and provide expanded coverage to New Jersey's uninsured. There are more than 264,000 children in this State who remain uninsured. A dramatic change in our current system of identifying and enrolling children, is needed to live up to our commitment of providing health insurance to those in need. Last year, New Jersey hospitals delivered over \$800 million in charity care services for uninsured patients, and an additional \$400 million in unpaid care for patients whose income was slightly over charity care limits (\$56,550 annual income for a family of four) but were unable to pay their bill. The plan also calls for steps to secure additional matching funds from the federal government to expand FamilyCare and Medicaid health insurance coverage. Currently, the income cap to be eligible for Medicaid in

New Jersey is 41% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), despite the fact that three of our neighboring States are all significantly higher: New York (150%), Pennsylvania (200%) and Delaware (117%). "With the cap set so low for Medicaid reimbursement, we're getting a lot less in federal matching funds than other States in the Northeast," said Senator Vitale. "By making our cap comparable to other states in the region, we'll be able to secure a stronger investment from the federal government for health care in New Jersey." Senator Vitale and Assemblyman Morgan said that they would introduce their FamilyCare reform package later in the month of January.

- The Senate released S-1314 (Buono) on December 6th, 2004, by a vote of 40-0. The bill requires managed care carriers to provide certain physicians with fee schedules. The association is monitoring this bill. This bill was reported out of committee on January 10th with some amendments.
- Assemblyman Cohen introduced A3440 on October 25th and it was referred to the Assembly Financial Institution and Insurance Committee. This bill enables carriers in the state of NJ to continue to offer HSA plans by "getting the lead out" (Bill Removes the Lead Poisoning treatment mandate). The NJAHU strongly supports 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. We have reached out to Dr Morgan he is a Democratic member of the Assembly that has shown some interest in our bill. We are hopeful that we can push this bill to passage during the Spring of 2005. This bill represents another major contribution by the NJAHU to improving consumers access to affordable Health Insurance.

3. Important Legislative Issues to address this Quarter

- **3.5:1-rate ratios for the Individual and Group marketplace. Bill Pending**
- **Change the NJ Statutory Continuation to look like Federal COBRA. DONE**
- 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. Bill Pending**

4. Events

- **Mark Your Calendars!!** Our annual Breakfast with the NJ State Legislature in Trenton will be held on March 14th, 2005 from 9 am to 12 noon. Details will follow shortly.
- **Capitol Conference 2005 will be held on February 7, 8 and 9th** down at the Capitol Hilton in Washington, DC. There is still time to register and attend. I look forward to seeing all of you at this important event.

Health Underwriters (2004-2005)

We are currently Tracking 78 bills in the NJ State Legislature.

Bill: A162**Sponsors** Oliver (D34)

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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****Sponsor** Gregg (R24); O'Toole (R40) +9**s:****Summary** Allows certain self-employed business owners to deduct their own pension plan contributions from gross income under the gross income tax.**Related** 2002:A1593; 2002:S367; 2000:A3395; 2000:S1666; 2000:S1823

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Status: 01/13/2004 - Assembly Commerce and Economic Development**History** 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Commerce and Economic Development.**Position** Monitor**n:****Notes:** 2-16-04 Monitor per Dave Mordo**Bill: A296****Sponsors** Vandervalk (R39); Cohen (D20) +1

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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.**Position** Oppose

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

9-9-04 Legislative Committee has made this a priority, position paper to be drafted.

Bill: A302**Sponsors** Vandervalk (R39)

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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

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Bill: A326**Sponsor** Weinberg (D37); Quigley (D32) +3**S:****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.

Positio Monitor**n:****Bill: A333****Sponsor** Weinberg (D37); Johnson (D37); Previte (D6) +8**S:****Summary** Revises statutory mental health coverage requirements and requires all health insurers to cover alcohol and drug addiction treatment under same terms and conditions as for other diseases or illnesses.**Related** 2002:A2487; 2002:S1633

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

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

Position: Support**n:****Bill: A340 Aca (1R)****Sponsors:** Weinberg (D37); Conaway (D7); Manzo (D31) +4**Summary:** Establishes voluntary Statewide physician joint purchasing alliance.**Related:** 2002:A3157; 2002:S2266**Status:** 12/06/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee**History:** 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

11/08/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

11/15/2004 - Passed in Assembly 78-0-0.

12/06/2004 - Received in Senate and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Position: Monitor**Notes:** 11-10-04 Change from oppose to monitor per Jack Kalosy.

Bill: A637**Sponsors** Stender (D22)

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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

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Bill: A717**Sponsors** Bodine (R8); Chatzidakis (R8)

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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: A746****Sponsors** Cohen (D20); Van Drew (D1) +1

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Summary: Provides gross income tax credit for certain small business employers that provide health care benefits to employees.**Related:** 2004:S2164; 2002:A1681; 2000:A1096; 2000:S2734; 1998:A266; 1996:A1147; 1994:A1038; 1992:A1344**Status:** 05/06/2004 - Assembly Appropriations Committee**History:** 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Labor Committee.
05/06/2004 - Reported out of committee, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.**Position** Support

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Notes: 1-7-05 Support per Jack Kalosy.

Bill: A747 Acs (ACS)**Sponsors** Cohen (D20); Gordon (D38) +1

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Summary: Provides tax credit for certain taxpayers that provide health care benefits to employees.**Related:** 2004:S2166; 2002:A1687; 2000:A1095; 2000:S2735; 1998:A265; 1996:A1146; 1994:A1037; 1992:A1343**Status:** 05/03/2004 - Assembly Appropriations Committee**History:** 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

05/03/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee substitute, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position Support

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Notes: 1-7-05 Support per Jack Kalosy.**Bill: A912****Sponsor** Connors, C. (R9); Rumpf (R9)**s:****Summary** Requires health insurers to cover Lyme disease.

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Related 2004:S1308; 2002:A984; 2002:A1328; 2000:A690; 2000:A994;

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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.

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Positio Oppose**n:****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)

Sponsor Prieto (D32); Cohen (D20); Rumpf (R9); Connors, C. (R9) +4
S:

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

Related 2004:S1690; 2002:A1019; 2002:S2815; 2000:A1883; 1998:A411;
 : 1996:A2955

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

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.

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

Positio Oppose

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Bill: A1080 Aca (1R)

Sponsor Cryan (D20); Barnes (D18); Chiappone (D31) +2
S:

Summary "New Jersey Identity Theft Prevention Act".

Status: 10/04/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance
 Committee

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

: 10/04/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments,
 referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance
 Committee.

Positio Monitor

n:

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

Bill: A1104**Sponsor** Corodemus (R11)**S:****Summary** Requires HMOs and small employer health benefits plans that cover routine foot care to permit podiatric physicians to provide such services.**Related** 2002:A1369; 2000:A1205; 1998:A1400; 1996:A2905**:****Status:** 01/13/2004 - Assembly Health and Human Services Committee**History** 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.**Positio** Monitor**n:****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: A1181****Sponsors** Quigley (D32); Impreveduto (D32) +2**:****Summary:** Provides gross income tax deduction for health care plan costs.**Related:** 2004:S2165; 2002:A1118; 2000:A599; 1998:A1041; 1996:A355; 1994:A3165**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** Support**:****Notes:** 1-7-05 Support per Jack Kalosy.

Bill: A1520**Sponsors** Conaway (D7)

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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

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Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo**Bill:** A1522**Sponsor** Conaway (D7)**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.**Related** 2002:A3913

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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** Monitor**n:****Comment** 12-14-03 Added as monitor per Dave Mordo.**S:**

Bill: A1574**Sponsor** Pou (D35); Steele (D35)**S:****Summary** Requires health insurers, Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare to provide coverage for comprehensive program of pediatric feeding and swallowing services.**Related** 2004:S528; 2002:A3146; 2002:S2200**:****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** Monitor**n:****Bill: A1593 Acs (ACS)****Sponsors** Burzichelli (D3); Van Drew (D1); Fisher (D3); Johnson (D37); Cohen (D20); Scalera (D36); Diegnan (D18) +9**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.

Position Monitor**:****Comments** 11-28-03 Added as monitor per Dennis Cuccinelli.**:** 12-13-03 Added as monitor per Dave Mordo.

Bill: A1834 Aca (1R)**Sponsor** Green (D22); Cryan (D20) +15**s:****Summary** Requires health care facilities to report certain information
: about their health care staff to their respective professional boards or DHSS.**Related** 2004:S649; 2002:A4054; 2002:S2851**:****Status:** 05/27/2004 - 2nd reading in the Assembly**History** 01/22/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Health and Human
: Services Committee.05/27/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments,
2nd reading in Assembly.**Positio** Monitor**n:****Bill: A1883****Sponsor** Oliver (D34) +2**s:****Summary** Prohibits hospital from denying admission or services to patient
: based on patient's HMO coverage, and requires HMO's to cover legitimate emergency health care.**Related** 2002:A1715; 2002:S537; 2000:A131; 2000:S750; 1998:A3429**:****Status:** 01/22/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance
Committee**History** 01/22/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial
: Institutions and Insurance Committee.**Positio** Monitor**n:**

Bill: A1911 Aca (1R)

Sponsor Weinberg (D37); Manzo (D31) +3

s:

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

Related 2004:S840; 2002:A3875

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Status: 05/05/2004 - Bill or Resolution Signed by the Governor

History 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.

Positio Monitor

n:

Comment 1-22-04 Added per Dave Mordo.

s:

Bill: A1913 AcaAaAaAa (4R)**Sponsor** Weinberg (D37); Vandervalk (R39); Gordon (D38) +1**S:****Summary** Establishes Health Care Professional Regulation Study Commission
: and requires certain State professional licensing boards to take certain actions.**Related** 2002:A3985**:****Status:** 03/22/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee**History** 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 - 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.

Positio Monitor**n:****Notes:** 1-22-04 Added per Dave Mordo.**Bill: A1914 Aca (1R)****Sponsor** Weinberg (D37); Cohen (D20); Previte (D6)**S:****Summary** Requires small employer health insurance carriers to offer coverage
: for treatment of infertility.**Related** 2004:S2105**:****Status:** 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.

Positio Oppose**n:****Notes:** 9-9-04 Legislative Committee has made this a priority, position paper to be drafted.

Bill:	A1954
Sponsor	Van Drew (D1)
S:	
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
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Status:	01/26/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee
History	01/26/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.
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Position:	Monitor
Comment	12-14-03 Added as monitor per Dave Mordo.
S:	

Bill:	A1986 Aca (1R)
Sponsors	Weinberg (D37); Gordon (D38); Manzo (D31); Cohen (D20) +1
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Summary:	Establishes "New Jersey Health Care Access Study Commission."
Related:	2004:S1908
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.
Position	Oppose
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Notes:	2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo

Bill: A2006**Sponsors** Weinberg (D37)

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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

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Notes: Oppose per Jack Kalosy on 6-10-03**Bill: A2014****Sponsors** Cryan (D20); Chiappone (D31)

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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

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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.**Related:** 2004:S1972**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 Aca (1R)

Sponsors: Cohen (D20); Manzo (D31)

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

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

Status: 01/10/2005 - 2nd reading in the Assembly

History: 02/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.
01/10/2005 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.

Position: Monitor

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Bill: A2117 Aca (1R)

Sponsor: Cohen (D20); Weinberg (D37) +1

s:

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

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Status: 10/07/2004 - Substituted by another bill

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.
10/07/2004 - Substituted by S-963 (1R).

Position: Support

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Notes: 12-14-03 Monitor per Dave Mordo.
2-16-04 Change position from monitor to support per Dave Mordo.
9-9-04 Legislative Committee has made this a priority, position paper to be drafted.

Bill: A2162**Sponsors** Gusciora (D15); Manzo (D31)

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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

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Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo**Bill: A2168****Sponsors** Diegnan (D18); Vas (D19); Manzo (D31) +1

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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

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

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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

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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

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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

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Bill: A2261 Sca (1R)

Sponsor Voss (D38); Greenstein (D14); Weinberg (D37); Roberts (D5); Cohen
s: (D20) +20

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

Related 2004:S862; 2004:S1530

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Status: 07/07/2004 - Bill or Resolution Signed by the Governor

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 - Substituted for S-862/S-1409/S-1530 (SCS). Passed in
 Senate 39-0. Received in Assembly, 2nd reading in Assembly to
 concur with Senate amendments.

06/24/2004 - Passed in Assembly and sent to Governor 77-0-0.

07/07/2004 - Signed by the Governor P.L.2004, c.86.

Positio Support

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Notes: 2-16-04 Support per Dave Mordo

Bill: A2292

Sponsors Conaway (D7)

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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

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

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Bill: A2359**Sponsor** Prieto (D32); Cohen (D20)**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).**Position:** Oppose**n:****Bill: A2580****Sponsor** Weinberg (D37); Johnson (D37)**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.**Position:** Oppose**n:****Notes:** 3-17-04 Oppose actively per Jack Kalosy.
9-9-04 Legislative Committee has made this a priority, position paper to be drafted.**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: 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: A3379

Sponsor Cohen (D20)

s:

Summary Credits coverage under Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare towards employer's minimum participation rate under NJ Small Employer Health Benefits Program.

Related 2004:S1912

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Status: 10/18/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History 10/18/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Positio Support

n:

Notes: 10-7-04 Support per Jack Kalosy.

Bill: A3440

Sponsors Cohen (D20)

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Summary: Provides for establishment of health savings accounts.

Status: 10/25/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

History: 10/25/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Position Support

:

Notes: 10-25-04 Support per Dave Mordo.

Bill: A3583**Sponsor** Russo (R40); Cohen (D20)**S:****Summary** Extends certain federal income tax advantages of individual health savings accounts to individual taxpayers under the New Jersey gross income tax.**Status:** 12/09/2004 - Assembly Appropriations Committee**History** 12/09/2004 - Introduced and referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.**Position:** Support**Notes:** 12-15-04 Support per Jack Kalosy. Position paper prepared by J. Kalosy on file.**Bill: S107****Sponsors** Inverso (R14); Singer (R30) +2**S:****Summary:** Requires coverage for certain nonprescription formulas under certain health benefits plans, including SHBP.**Related:** 2002:A2351; 2002:S1499**Status:** 12/10/2004 - Senate State Government Committee**History:** 01/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate State Government Committee.
12/10/2004 - Pension and Health Benefits Review Commission reviewed and recommended to not enact.**Position** Oppose**S:****Notes:** 11-12-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo.**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)

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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

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Bill: S508**Sponsors** Sacco (D32); Karcher (D12) +3

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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

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Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo

Bill: S528**Sponsors:** Girgenti (D35); Bucco (R25) +1**Summary:** Requires health insurers, Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare to provide coverage for comprehensive program of pediatric feeding and swallowing services.**Related:** 2004:A1574; 2002:A3146; 2002:S2200**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: 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)

Sponsor Vitale (D19); Girgenti (D35); Weinberg (D37); Manzo (D31); Gordon
s: (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.
Positio Support
n:
Notes: 2-16-04 Support per Dave Mordo

Bill: S649

Sponsor Kavanaugh (R16)
s:
Summary Requires health care facilities to report certain information
: about their health care staff to their respective professional
boards or DHSS.
Related 2004:A1834; 2002:A4054; 2002:S2851
:
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.
Positio Monitor
n:

Bill: S686**Sponsors** Vitale (D19)

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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

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Notes: 2-16-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo**Bill:** S688**Sponsors** Vitale (D19)

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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

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

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Status: 03/22/2004 - Substituted by another bill**History** 02/05/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

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

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

Position Monitor**n:**

Bill: S862 Scs (SCS)

Sponsors Karcher (D12); Codey (D27); Sarlo (D36); Buono (D18); Madden (D4)
:

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

Related: 2004:A2261; 2004:S1530

Status: 06/17/2004 - Substituted by another bill

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 - Substituted by A-2261 (1R).

Position Support

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Notes: 2-16-04 Support per Dave Mordo

Bill: S882

Sponsors Turner (D15)

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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

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Bill: S963 Aca (1R)**Sponsors:** Singer (R30); Allen (R7); Cohen (D20); Weinberg (D37) +2**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:** 12/07/2004 - Bill or Resolution Signed by the Governor**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.

: 10/07/2004 - Substituted for A-2117 (1R). Passed in Assembly 77-0-0.

: 10/14/2004 - Received in Senate, 2nd reading in Senate to concur with Assembly amendments.

: 10/25/2004 - Passed in Senate and sent to Governor 38-0.

: 12/07/2004 - Signed by the Governor P.L.2004, c.162.

Position: Support**Notes:** 9-9-04 Legislative Committee has made this a priority, position paper to be drafted.**Comments:** 12-14-03 Monitor per Dave Mordo.**S:****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)**Sponsor** Kean, T. (R21); Scutari (D22) +1**s:****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**History** 02/24/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.**:** 03/08/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Senate.

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

Position Monitor**n:****Bill:** S1300**Sponsors** Buono (D18); Vitale (D19)**:****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.**Position** Oppose**:****Notes:** 3-17-04 Oppose per Jack Kalosy on the grounds that it increases benefits and removes the maximum on preventive care.

9-9-04 Legislative Committee has made this a priority, position paper to be drafted.

Bill: S1308**Sponsor** Buono (D18)**s:****Summary** Requires health insurers to cover Lyme disease.**:****Related** 2004:A912; 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:** 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.**Position** Oppose**n:****Notes:** 3-17-04 Oppose per Dave Mordo on the grounds that it allows
coverage for "experimental" treatment which could be costly.**Bill: S1314 ScaSaAca (3R)****Sponsors** Buono (D18) +1**:****Summary:** Requires managed care carriers to provide certain physicians with
fee schedules.**Related:** 2004:A2116; 2002:A2926; 2002:S317; 2000:A3952; 2000:S1735**Status:** 01/10/2005 - 2nd reading in the Assembly**History:** 03/08/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce
Committee.10/04/2004 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments,
2nd reading in Senate.10/25/2004 - Amended on Senate floor, 2nd reading in Senate 32-0
(Buono).

12/06/2004 - Passed in Senate 40-0.

12/09/2004 - Received in Assembly and referred to Assembly
Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.01/10/2005 - Reported out of committee with committee amendments,
2nd reading in Assembly.**Position** Monitor**:**

Bill: S1530**Sponsors** Madden (D4); Sweeney (D3)

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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).**Position** Support

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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.

9-9-04 Legislative Committee has made this a priority, position paper to be drafted.

Bill: S1683**Sponsor** Vitale (D19)

s:

Summary Requires SHBP and health insurers providing dependent coverage to cover unmarried dependent children until their 26th birthday.**Status:** 09/17/2004 - Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee**History** 06/10/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

09/17/2004 - Pension and Health Benefits Review Commission reviewed and recommended to not enact.

Positio Oppose

n:

Notes: 6-16-04 Oppose per Jack Kalosy.

9-9-04 Legislative Committee has made this a priority, position paper to be drafted.

Bill: S1690**Sponsor** Kavanaugh (R16); Baer (D37)**s:****Summary** Requires that chiropractic physicians, podiatric physicians, allopathic physicians, and osteopathic physicians be reimbursed at same rate as other health care providers under various health and accident plans.**Related** 2004:A947; 2002:A1019; 2002:S2815; 2000:A1883; 1998:A411; 1996:A2955**Status:** 06/14/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee**History** 06/14/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.**:****Positio** Oppose**n:****Bill: S1912****Sponsor** Vitale (D19); Sweeney (D3) +2**s:****Summary** Credits coverage under Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare towards employer's minimum participation rate under NJ Small Employer Health Benefits Program.**Related** 2004:A3379**:****Status:** 12/09/2004 - Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee**History** 10/04/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

10/14/2004 - Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Senate.

12/06/2004 - Passed in Senate 40-0.

12/09/2004 - Received in Assembly and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

Positio Support**n:****Notes:** 10-7-04 Support per Jack Kalosy.**Bill: S1972****Sponsors:** Scutari (D22)**Summary:** Clarifies that advertisements by licensed professionals are subject to the Consumer Fraud Act.**Related:** 2004:A2088**Status:** 10/18/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee**History:** 10/18/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.**Position:** Oppose

Bill: S2164

Sponsors Adler (D6)

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Summary: Provides gross income tax credit for certain small business employers that provide health care benefits to employees.

Related: 2004:A746; 2002:A1681; 2000:A1096; 2000:S2734; 1998:A266; 1996:A1147; 1994:A1038; 1992:A1344

Status: 12/13/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 12/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Position Support

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Notes: 1-7-05 Support per Jack Kalosy.

Bill: S2165

Sponsors: Adler (D6)

Summary: Provides gross income tax deduction for health care plan costs.

Related: 2004:A1181; 2002:A1118; 2000:A599; 1998:A1041; 1996:A355; 1994:A3165

Status: 12/13/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 12/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Position: Support

Notes: 1-7-05 Support per Jack Kalosy.

Bill: S2166

Sponsors Adler (D6)

:

Summary: Provides tax credit for certain taxpayers that provide health care benefits to employees.

Related: 2004:A747; 2002:A1687; 2000:A1095; 2000:S2735; 1998:A265; 1996:A1146; 1994:A1037; 1992:A1343

Status: 12/13/2004 - Senate Commerce Committee

History: 12/13/2004 - Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.

Position Support

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Notes: 1-7-05 Support per Jack Kalosy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Kalosy

NJ State Legislative Chair