

NOTES OF INTEREST

- The Connecticut State Legislature began the 2023 Session on January 4th. The session ends June 7th.
- The next House and Senate Sessions are scheduled for April 27th at 10am. It can be watched live at CT-N.com
- The Insurance and Real Estate committee has finished their regular business for the session. The committee bill referral deadline has passed



LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

April 17, 2023

LEGISLATION

All bills referred out of the Insurance and Real Estate committee continue to move along through the standard legislative process. Bills go to the Legislative Commissioner's Office and Office of Fiscal Analysis for review and a fiscal note. Any amendments made to language during the referral process will be incorporated into the language, and all of this information will then be published in "File Copy" form. File copies will then be sent to their respective chambers to be placed on the calendar for a final vote. Some bills with fiscal or judicial impact may be referred to other committees for further review before final action.

Most official committee work will wrap up this week. The Finance, Revenue, and Bonding and Appropriations committees will conclude their work on amendments to the governor's proposed budget and refer their version to the assembly for a vote (we would not expect any final vote on the budget until late June). In the coming weeks, we expect the House and Senate to meet more frequently to take final action on bills. Both chambers are currently scheduled to meet at 11am on April 27th.

The deadline to refer Insurance bills out of committee has now passed, but it is important to note that many pieces of legislation "come back" in the form of amendments on the floor. We will continue to monitor all legislation and amendments as they are published, and provide updates as necessary.

Recent Action on other Legislation of Interest:

Several bills have completed the legislative review process and have now been published in File Copy form. Details on those bills, as well as other bills we are closely following, are below. Note: Bills placed on a chamber calendar for final action can be called for a vote at any time, but we do not expect any movement on these items within the next couple of weeks. We will provide updates as we have them.

[House Bill 6710](#) An Act Concerning Association Health Plans And Establishing A Task Force To Study Stop-loss Insurance.

Latest Action: Placed on House Calendar

- File Copy Number [330](#)
- Stakeholders continue to discuss bill language after robust debate in committee. We expect conversations on this legislation to continue

H.B. No. 6709 An Act Concerning Access Health

Latest Action: Placed on House Calendar

- File Copy Number
- This legislation would allow health carriers on the exchange to directly market and assist with enrolling members. The legislation was amended in the Insurance and Real Estate committee to also allow web brokers licensed in the state of Connecticut to enroll members. Committee chairs stated that this legislation is needed because of the number of individuals that will need to enroll through Access Health after the Medicaid redetermination on March 31. Amended language can be found [here](#).
- CSG is working with legislative committee members to address major concerns with this language. Access Health CT shares our concerns with the language. We will work with them to advocate for language changes.

H.B. 6634 An Act Concerning Site Of Service Reimbursements

Latest Action: Placed on House Calendar

- File Copy Number [357](#)
- Beginning January 1, 2024, this bill requires a hospital-based facility that is located away from a hospital campus (“off-site”) to submit with each claim the facility’s national provider identifier (NPI) and federal tax identification number. The NPI and tax identification number must be:
 1. separate from those issued to the hospital campus and
 2. included in any reimbursement claim for services the facility provided, regardless of whether the facility or the hospital or another facility submits the claim.
- Under the bill, health carriers are not required to reimburse or pay a health care provider for a claim for a service or item provided to a covered person at an off-site hospital-based facility unless the provider submits the claim using the separate NPI or tax identification number as described above. Off-site hospital-based facilities, or their designees, that do not file claims in this way cannot hold the covered person liable for payment.
- Additionally, starting January 1, 2024, the bill prohibits off-site hospital based facilities in Connecticut from charging a facility fee, unless it is mutually agreed to in a contract between a health carrier and the hospital.
- NABIP-CT legislative committee representatives have spoken with the state Healthcare Advocate on this legislation. Members shared their concerns that clients who go to doctors at



hospital-owned health practices are often being charged hospital prices for off-site services. The OHA is reviewing this legislation to determine if it will help solve the problem our brokers have highlighted.

SB 983 An Act Limiting Anticompetitive Health Care Practices.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Calendar

- File Copy Number [341](#)

ADMINISTRATION

Healthcare Legislation:

House Bill 6669, *An Act Protecting Patients and Prohibiting Unnecessary Health Care Costs*

Latest Action: Placed on House Calendar

- File Copy Number [453](#)
- The bill includes legislation that would eliminate hospital facility fees charged at free-standing offices and clinics. NABIP-CT is supportive of legislation that prevents hospital facility fees for out patient visits, and has engaged with the Office of Healthcare Advocate to discuss ways to expand this legislation to reduce or eliminate hospital charges for services provided in providers' offices.

Budget: The governor [proposed a new biennial budget to the legislature on February 8th](#). This week, the Appropriations and Finance, Revenue, and Bonding committee will release their official response to the governor's budget. As soon as the legislation is published, we will be sure to review for any sections of interest to NABIP-CT.

KEY INFORMATION RESOURCES:

- **CT Insurance Department Bulletins:** <https://portal.ct.gov/CID/Bulletins/Current-List-of-Bulletins>
- **Connecticut Paid Leave Authority website:** CTPaidLeave.org

RECENT ARTICLES AND OP-EDS OF NOTE:

- **CT Mirror:** [In CT, a 'battle royale' over lowering health care costs](#)
- **CT NewsJunkie:** [Ruling On Affordable Care Act Muted In Connecticut](#)
- **CT Mirror:** [A CT Medicaid program may see its strict income limits increase](#)
- **CT Mirror (Viewpoints):** [An evening in the emergency department reveals how broken our health system is](#)
- **CT NewsJunkie:** [Some Say Biden's Expansion of Health Care for DACA Doesn't Go Far Enough](#)



- [Harford Courant Opinion: Kerry Wood: Common sense solutions for CT problems](#)
- [CT Public Radio: Connecticut health care spending outpaces economic growth](#)



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