

July 30, 2013

The Hon. Susan Bonilla
Assembly Business, Professions & Consumer Protection Committee
1020 N Street, Room 383
Sacramento, CA 95814

Fax No. (916) 319-3306

Re: Support - SB 493 (Hernandez) Pharmacists

Dear Ms. Bonilla:

The California Association of Physician Groups speaks for over 150 multispecialty medical groups and independent practice associations that serve over 18 million Californians with accountable, quality health care. We are pleased to support this bill.

CAPG groups are at the forefront of the implementation of delivery system reform in California. Our members are focused on how best to provide increased access to health care as millions of Californians gain health insurance coverage in the coming year. Our CAPG groups are responsible under the Knox Keene Act to provide both adequate networks of providers in geographic areas and also under timely access regulatory standards. They function in all areas of health coverage – Medicare, Commercial/Employer-Sponsored and Medi-Cal managed care.

SB 493 is a measure that can help greatly to increase access to care. CAPG member physician groups already employ several hundred pharmacists and will utilize the new classification of Advanced Practice Pharmacists to better coordinate patient care delivery.

The majority of the concerns raised in our April 15th letter expressing a “support if amended” position have been addressed.

We look forward to continuing to work with the author and sponsors of this measure, and we respectfully ask for your “aye” vote.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'WJ Barcellona', on a light-colored background.

William J. Barcellona, JD, MHA
Sr. Vice President, Government Affairs

CC: Members of the Committee
Sarah Huchel
Ted Blanchard