



**CALIFORNIA  
HOSPITAL  
ASSOCIATION**

*Providing Leadership in  
Health Policy and Advocacy*

May 8, 2013

The Honorable Kevin de León  
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 5108  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: SB 493 (Hernandez) – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator de León:

The California Hospital Association (CHA), on behalf of our more than 400 member hospitals, appreciates the opportunity to express our support for SB 493 (Hernandez) which would expand the functions pharmacists may perform as well as the settings where pharmacists are authorized to practice. This bill would ensure that health plans and other systems of care can include pharmacists as a member of the health care team. CHA is extremely supportive of efforts to include these invaluable providers in the health care clinical delivery teams of the future.

CHA and its member hospitals have exceptional relationships with their pharmacists and rely heavily upon them to provide consultation, training and education to patients regarding medication therapy, as well as disease management and prevention. Pharmacists are an integral component to the inpatient interdisciplinary team and provide the highest quality of medication treatment interpretation, consultation and proactive prevention of medication errors. CHA supports efforts to place pharmacists in multiple settings to deploy their critical expertise and to utilize them to the full extent of their education and training.

California hospitals have been leaders in transforming the delivery of health care and preparing for the realities of the Affordable Care Act. Utilizing health care providers to the extent of their education and training will be a pivotal component of our success. CHA is committed to working with the author to implement these provisions as this is clearly a promising and cogent strategy for increasing access to an integrated, team focused delivery of health care in California.

For this reason, CHA respectfully requests your “AYE” vote on SB 493.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Connie Delgado".

Connie Delgado  
Deputy Chief Legislative Advocate

CD:dlv

cc: The Honorable Ed Hernandez, O.D.  
The Honorable Members of Senate Appropriations Committee  
Brendan McCarthy, consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Heather White, consultant, Senate Republican Caucus