

Dear all:

I want to thank each and every one of you for your phone calls and emails today. Because of your calls and emails, a vote on SB 81 was delayed with the acknowledgement that more work needs to be done. As such, more work will be done on the bill next week and possibly some changes to the bill. The bill will be up for a vote on Thursday. As such, please stay tuned as we will be sending you updates throughout next week.

Now, we still have work to do on SB 8 (the Surprise Insurance Gap bill) and HB 36 (the granting of Optometrists to use needles on the eye bill). **On Tuesday, these bills will be before the committees for a vote.**

SB 8 is before the same Senate Health and Human Services Committee that you called last night and today. We are trying to get more information on the posture of the bill – whether there will be a vote or just a hearing. In its current form, MAG is opposed to SB 8. The bill limits what a physician can charge for out of network care and places many administrative burdens on the physician's practice. However, we have proposed a solution that would solve the concerns SB 8 is trying to address. We will be sending you more information and a call to action once we have more information.

HB 36 will be heard and voted on in the House Health and Human Services Committee and allows optometrists to do injections to the eye. MAG is opposed as this is a patient safety issue. You will be receiving an alert on Monday to call the House Health and Human Services Committee and ask them to vote against HB 36.

Again, thank you all for your calls.

**A special thanks to Drs. Michelle Zeanah, Vin Puppala and Kay Kirkpatrick for clearing their patient schedules and testifying before the committee on the challenges of SB 81.**

Go Falcons.

Donald

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