



Legisletter

Produced by UHA, Utah Hospitals & Health Systems Association

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Health Reform Legislation to Be Discussed

It is likely that [H.B. 133 – Health System Reform](#), sponsored by Representative Dave Clark, will be discussed in committee this coming week. The latest version of this legislation looks to set up a legislative task force to address a multi-year framework for health system reform. UHA is supportive of Representative Clark's efforts and will speak in favor of the legislation at the committee hearing. UHA urges all hospitals to contact their legislators to ask them to support this health care reform legislation.

Niche Providers Propose Further Legislation

Last week Senator Chris Buttars introduced [S.B. 121 – Access to Qualified Healthcare Providers](#) which is very similar to the any willing provider legislation he introduced last year that was defeated. This week, he has introduced [S.B. 74 – Health Care Provider Access](#). This legislation would prohibit any hospital with more than 25% of the beds in a county from negotiating contracts with insurers that provide discounts to the insurer in return for restrictions on that insurer's provider network. UHA has helped to organize a broad business and industry coalition to defeat these bills. UHA urges every hospital to contact their Senator to express strong opposition to these bills as these bills could come up in the Senate Health Committee by the middle of next week.

Other Legislation of Interest

UHA has taken a position of support for [H.B. 47 – Standards of Exchange for Electronic Health Records](#). This bill has passed out of the House Health Committee already. UHA has also taken a position of support for [H.B. 87 – Primary Seat Belt Law](#) and [H.B. 140 – Child Restraint Device Amendments](#). Legislation dealing with assignment of benefits is still being discussed. In addition, hospital lien legislation and mandatory arbitration for small medical malpractice claims legislation also continue to be discussed but have not yet been introduced. Legislation addressing payment for prisoner's health claims has also been introduced and UHA is working with the sponsor with regard to possible amendments.

Thanks For Attending UHA's Legislative Reception Yesterday

Many UHA members and legislators enjoyed a fine evening of excellent food, music and conversation last night at our annual Legislative Reception. Special thanks to Kelly and Brenda for all of their hard work in making such a nice evening happen for all of us.

Plan on Attending Our Annual Hospital Day at the Legislature

Please RSVP to come to UHA's Annual Hospital Day at the Legislature to be held on Monday, February 18th. We will have a wonderful lunch in the Capitol Rotunda with many legislators and we hope you will come. It will be a great opportunity to mingle with your legislators and see the beautifully restored State Capitol. Please call Brenda at 486-9915 if you would like to attend.

UHA Is Here To Help You Keep Informed

Please visit the UHA website at www.uth-utah.org for more legislative information. Attached you will find a list of the legislators that represent each hospital in the state. For additional legislative information you can go to the legislative website at www.le.state.ut.us where you can read and track proposed legislation, see committee agendas and find lots of other pertinent information. If you have specific questions or concerns, please e-mail Dave Gessel at dave@uha-utah.org or call him at 231-3404.