



September 7, 2016

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor
State of California
State Capitol Building, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 1114- Increasing Access to Pharmacist Services in the Medi-Cal Program

Dear Governor Brown:

The Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) urges you to sign Assembly Bill 1114, legislation that would make certain pharmacist provided services a covered benefit under the Medi-Cal program. As health care delivery in the United States continues to evolve and the focus on an interdisciplinary team approach to patient care increases, it is critical to recognize the value of pharmacists as health care providers.

AMCP is a national professional association of pharmacists and other health care practitioners who serve society by the application of sound medication management principles and strategies to improve health care for all. The Academy's nearly 8,000 members, with 1,295 living and practicing in California, develop and provide a diversified range of clinical, educational and business management services and strategies on behalf of the more than 200 million Americans covered by a managed care pharmacy benefit.

The high level of education and training pharmacists receive qualifies them as "medication experts". As pharmacists continue to be recognized for their value as members of a health care team, an expanded role for pharmacists will improve patient outcomes and reduce overall health care costs in the Medi-Cal program. Therefore, patients in the Medi-Cal program will benefit when pharmacists are authorized to enhance patient care by improving patient outcomes, increasing patient satisfaction, improving access to certain services, decreasing the number of drug related adverse events, and reducing overall healthcare costs.¹

We appreciate the opportunity to share our views on Assembly Bill 1114. We respectfully urge you to sign this important legislation. If you have any questions, you may contact AMCP's California advocacy leader Stephanie Lu, PharmD at stephanievl@gmail.com or AMCP's Director of Legislative Affairs, Regina Benjamin, at (703) 683-8416 or rbenjamin@amcp.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Cantrell", written in a cursive style.

Susan A. Cantrell, RPh, CAE
Chief Executive Officer

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¹ Isasi, Frederick, and Esther Isasi. "The Expanding Role of Pharmacists in a Transformed Health Care System." *National Governors Association*. NGA Center for Best Practices, 13 Jan. 2015. Web. 24 Aug. 2016.
<<http://www.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/2015/1501TheExpandingRoleOfPharmacists.pdf>>.