

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Week of November 3, 2025

State Issues	
This Week	Voters overwhelmingly supported Governor Newsom's Congressional redistricting effort, Proposition 50. Other major political stories this week include U.S. Senator Alex Padilla announcing that he is not running to be California's next Governor. And after serving California for decades in the U.S. Congress, Representative Nancy Pelosi announced her retirement at the end of her term, December 2026. Worth noting, California State Senator Scott Weiner did not wait for her announcement but declared several weeks ago that he's running for that seat. The latter issues all point to the merry-go-round of political vacancies and aspirations now in full swing.
Health Related Hearings and Webinars	Discussions are now gearing up about how Prop 50, the political vacancies and the federal budget issues will impact the work in health policy. Several interesting hearings, health gatherings, and webinars have been announced recently and are detailed below for awareness. Training for Health Care Jobs in California TODAY: November 6: Public Policy Institute of California. Register here. Healthcare is one of the largest and fastest-growing sectors in California's economy, with opportunities for workers who lack a four-year college degree. Community colleges offer the most affordable training. But not all pathways yield the same results. How well do these programs support economic mobility, and for which populations? PPIC senior fellow Shannon McConville will present findings from a recent report. Gubernatorial Candidate Forum on Health Care Friday, November 7, 2025: California Health Care Foundation. Watch here. The outcome of the 2026 California governor's race will shape state health policy for years to come. That's why CHCF is co-sponsoring Health Matters: A Conversation with California's Next Governor, a nonpartisan forum in the Inland Empire that puts health at the center of the conversation. Watch it live on Friday, Nov. 7 at 1:30 pm (PT). The forum will bring together leading candidates to hear directly from communities about what matters most for their good health. It will be an opportunity to elevate voices too often left out of policymaking discussions and to ensure that candidates focus on policies that will give every Californian the chance to live in good health. (more)

Health Related Hearings and Webinars (continued)	From Skepticism to Possibility: Californians' Views on AI in Health Care November 12: California Health Care Foundation. Register here. Californians are open to artificial intelligence in health care — but only if it strengthens trust and prioritizes human connection at the core of the provider-patient relationship. In diverse patient focus groups across the state, CHCF heard patients clearly express expectations for how AI should be integrated into care. ▪ Patients want clear information about when and how it's used, real choice about participating, and assurance that it helps clinicians rather than replaces them. ▪ Patients appreciate AI's potential to reduce administrative burdens and give providers more time with patients. ▪ Patients want these tools to enhance, not erode, patient-provider trust. These insights offer a roadmap to implementing AI in ways that build confidence and make the health system more responsive to all Californians. Informational Hearing: Forecasts and Estimates: Crafting the Budget for California's Health Programs November 14: Senate Budget Subcommittee #3 on Health: Chair, Dr. Senator Akilah Weber While no agenda has been released for this hearing, it is expected that the LAO's new report, "Considering Medi-Cal in the Midst of a Changing Fiscal and Policy Landscape" will be the center of discussion. Their report covers four key points that many have been grappling with and will be the center for all health care budget discussions in 2026: ▪ Medi-Cal Faces Major Changes Due to a Shifting Fiscal and Policy Landscape. ▪ How Should H.R. 1 Provisions Be Implemented? ▪ What Changes May Be Needed to Eligibility, Benefits, and Financing? ▪ How Can the State Respond to the Increase in the Uninsured Population?
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