

Date of Hearing: July 16, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
Buffy Wicks, Chair
SB 862 (Committee on Health) – As Amended June 26, 2025

Policy Committee: Health

Vote: 15 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: Yes

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill makes various minor and technical clarifications, corrections, and amendments in the Health and Safety Code, Insurance Code, Education Code, and Welfare and Institutions Code.

Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Allows a hospital to provide a required written notice about charity care and discount payment programs in electronic form, as specified, provided the patient is not in the emergency room and has previously consented to electronic communication regarding their health care services.
- 2) Clarifies that a health facility must submit a patient safety plan to the California Department of Public Health biennially, instead of biannually, that is, every other year, instead of twice a year.
- 3) Corrects numerous references to the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission by replacing “Mental” with “Behavioral.”
- 4) Clarifies that at least two of the 60 hours of classroom training for certified nurse assistant training must address the special needs of persons with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias.
- 5) Revises a section of the Insurance Code that addresses the types of policies that are exempt from a requirement to cover infertility and fertility treatments.
- 6) Clarifies that a requirement for an insurer to provide an insured with a notice regarding the benefits of a behavioral health and wellness screening for children and adolescents eight to 18 years of age applies to a health insurer.
- 7) Deletes an obsolete code reference from the statute describing Community-Based Adult Services.
- 8) Makes other minor technical changes and corrections.

FISCAL EFFECT:

No state costs.

COMMENTS:1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

The 2025 Committee Bill is an omnibus measure meant to implement non-controversial, non-substantive changes to a number of statutes in the Health and Safety Code, as well as the Education Code, Insurance Code, and Welfare and Institutions Code. Particularly, these amendments aim to fix various typographical errors in the Health and Safety Code, reflect the updated name of the Behavioral Health Services Oversight Committee in several provisions, and specify the number of hours focused on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias for students in Certified Nurse Assistant Training. This bill will also clarify the type of insurers required to provide written or electronic notice regarding the benefits of behavioral health and wellness screening for children and adolescents, and specify the type of large group disability insurance policy exempt from covering certain fertility treatments.

2) **Amendments.** The author may wish to clarify language in item (5), above, and make references to health insurance policies consistent.

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