

## **Bills Supported by OHAC Signed by Governor**

In addition to bills supported by CPCA, the Governor also signed some key bills that were supported by the Oral Health Access Council (OHAC).

- AB 171 - This bill would prohibit a dentist, or an employee or agent of that dentist, from arranging for or establishing credit extended by a 3rd party for a patient without first providing a written notice and a written treatment plan, as specified, and would prohibit that arrangement or establishment of credit with regard to a patient who has been administered or is under the influence of general anesthesia, conscious sedation, or nitrous oxide. The bill would prohibit a dentist, or employee or agent of a dentist, from charging treatment not yet rendered or costs not yet incurred to an open-end credit extended by a 3rd party that is arranged for or established in the dental office without first providing the patient with specified information regarding the treatment and services to be rendered and ensuring the patient's receipt of the treatment plan. The bill would require a dentist to refund to the lender any payment received for treatment that has not been rendered or costs that have not been incurred, as specified, within 15 business days upon the patient's request. The bill would subject a person who willfully violates these provisions to specified civil liability. Because a violation of these provisions would be a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.
- SB 43 - This bill would authorize the healing arts boards, as defined, to collect information regarding the cultural and linguistic competency of persons licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise subject to regulation by those boards. The bill would require that this information be used only for the purpose of meeting the cultural and linguistic concerns of the state's diverse patient population.
- SB 630 - Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of health care service plans by the Department of Managed Health Care. Existing law provides for the regulation of health insurers by the Department of Insurance. A willful violation of the provisions governing health care service plans is a crime. Existing law requires health care service plan contracts and health insurance policies to cover reconstructive surgery, as defined. This bill would provide that the requirement to cover reconstructive surgery includes dental or orthodontic services that are medically necessary and related to the reconstructive surgery. Because a willful violation of the provision by a health care service plan is a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

The following bill was vetoed:

- AB 745 - This bill would require an administrator providing administrative services for a self-funded dental benefit plan to include certain language in explanation of benefits documents and in forms sent to claimants in response to claims for benefits.

For more information on these bills and OHAC's position, please visit OHAC's website at [www.oralhealthaccess.org](http://www.oralhealthaccess.org).