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CA RIMS CLD

Legislative Report

Updated: May 6, 2025

Civil Litigation

AB 743 (Rodriguez, Michelle, D) California Financing Law: lawsuit financiers.
Current Text: 03/24/2025 - Amended **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 02/18/2025
Last Amended: 03/24/2025
Status: 05/01/2025 - From committee: Amend, and do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 9. Noes 0.) (April 28).
Calendar: 05/05/25 #52 A-SECOND READING FILE -- ASSEMBLY BILLS
Location: 05/01/2025 - Assembly Appropriations
Summary: Would prohibit a person from engaging in the business of lawsuit financing, as defined, without obtaining a license from the Commissioner of Financial Protection and Innovation. The bill would require a licensee who is a lawsuit financier, as defined, to maintain a surety bond, as prescribed. The bill would include lawsuit financing in the definition of "commercial loan." The bill would make willful violations of the California Financing Law by a licensee who is a lawsuit financier subject to a civil penalty, as specified. (Based on 03/24/2025 text)
Position: Watch

Workers' Compensation

AB 1209 (Rodriguez, Michelle, D) Workers' compensation: cannabis industry.
Current Text: 04/10/2025 - Amended **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 02/21/2025
Last Amended: 04/10/2025
Status: 04/21/2025 - Re-referred to Com. on B. & P. In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.
Location: 04/02/2025 - Assembly Business and Professions
Summary: Would authorize the administrative director or their agent to require an employer that is licensed or required to be licensed under the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA) to provide proof that it has secured payment of workers' compensation to the administrative director or their agent. The bill would authorize the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation or their agent to establish a schedule for compliance that includes dates for when a licensee may be required to comply with these requirements. The bill would require the administrative director to provide assistance to any employer or entity that notifies the administrative director that it has been unable to obtain coverage and authorize the administrative director to extend the deadline for compliance, and would exempt any employer that secures the payment of workers' compensation pursuant to these provisions from civil or criminal liability for prior failure to secure the payment of compensation. The bill would authorize the administrative director to contract with one or more agents to assist employers in complying with these provisions, as specified. This bill contains other existing laws. (Based on 04/10/2025 text)
Position: Support

AB 1293 (Wallis, R) Workers' compensation: qualified medical evaluators.
Current Text: 04/09/2025 - Amended **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 02/21/2025
Last Amended: 04/09/2025
Status: 04/23/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 17. Noes 0.) (April 23). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.
Location: 04/23/2025 - Assembly Appropriations
Summary: Current law establishes a workers' compensation system, administered by the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation, to compensate an employee for injuries arising out of and in the course of their employment. Current law establishes procedures for the resolution of disputes regarding the compensability of an injury, including the use of a qualified medical evaluator (QME) to perform a comprehensive medical-legal evaluation to address

all contested medical issues arising from all injuries reported in a claim. Current law requires all communications with a panel QME before a medical evaluation to be in writing served on the opposing party 20 days in advance of the evaluation, and any subsequent communication with the QME to be in writing and served on the opposing party when the communication is sent to the QME. This bill would require the administrative director to develop and make available a medical evaluation request form for communicating with a panel qualified medical evaluator in advance of an evaluation obtained pursuant to the above provisions. The bill would require the administrative director to develop and make available a template QME report form, which will include all necessary statutory and regulatory requirements for a complete QME report that constitutes substantial evidence. The bill would require the Division of Workers' Compensation to adopt regulations to implement these provisions by January 1, 2027. (Based on 04/09/2025 text)
Position: Support

AB 1329 (Ortega, D) Workers' Compensation: Subsequent injuries payments.
Current Text: 04/21/2025 - Amended **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 02/21/2025
Last Amended: 04/21/2025
Status: 04/23/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 14. Noes 0.) (April 23). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.
Location: 04/23/2025 - Assembly Appropriations
Summary: Current law establishes a workers' compensation system, administered by the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation, to compensate an employee for injuries sustained in the course of employment. Current law provides certain methods for determining workers' compensation benefits payable to a worker or the worker's dependents for purposes of permanent total disability or permanent partial disability that include a determination of the percentage of permanent disability incurred. Current law requires that, for injuries incurred before January 1, 2013, in determining the percentages of permanent disability, account be taken of the nature of the physical injury or disfigurement, the occupation of the injured employee, and the injured employee's age at the time of the injury, and requires that specified factors be considered in determining an employee's diminished earning capacity for these purposes. For purposes of these provisions, "nature of the physical injury or disfigurement" incorporates the descriptions and measurements of physical impairment and the corresponding percentages of impairments published in the American Medical Association (AMA) Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment (5th Edition). For injuries occurring on or after January 1, 2013, in determining the percentages of permanent disability, existing law requires the same factors be taken into account but removes from consideration the employee's diminished future earning capacity and, instead, incorporates an adjustment factor of 1.4, as specified. Current law also establishes the Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund, a continuously appropriated fund. Under existing law, if a permanently, partially disabled employee receives a subsequent compensable injury resulting in additional permanent disability, then that employee receives compensation from the Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund. Current law requires, when applicable, the additional permanent disability resulting from the subsequent injury to be equal to 35% or more of total, when considered alone and without regard to, or adjustment for, the occupation or the age of the employee. For purposes of determining permanent disability resulting from a subsequent injury, this bill would measure permanent disability, for injuries occurring on or after January 1, 2005, and prior to January 1, 2013, by the whole person impairment rating as determined in accordance with the AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment (5th Edition), after adjustment for diminished future earning capacity and without regard to, or adjustment for, the occupation or age of the employee. (Based on 04/21/2025 text)

AB 1398 (Valencia, D) Workers' compensation.
Current Text: 04/24/2025 - Amended **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 02/21/2025
Last Amended: 04/24/2025
Status: 04/28/2025 - Re-referred to Com. on APPR.
Location: 04/23/2025 - Assembly Appropriations
Summary: Current law establishes a workers' compensation system, administered by the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation, to compensate an employee, as defined, for injuries sustained in the course of employment. Current law provides that it is unlawful for a physician to refer a person for specified medical goods or services whether for treatment or medical-legal purposes if the physician or their immediate family has a financial interest with the person or in the entity that receives the referral, except in prescribed circumstances. Current law requires all interested parties, as defined, to disclose any financial interest in any entity providing services. A violation of these provisions is a misdemeanor. This bill would require all interested parties to provide written disclosure of their financial interest, if any, to a third-party payer or other entity to whom a claim for payment is presented for services furnished pursuant to a referral. (Based on 04/24/2025 text)
Position: Support

SB 291 (Grayson, D) Contractors: workers' compensation insurance.

Current Text: 05/01/2025 - Amended **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 02/06/2025
Last Amended: 05/01/2025
Status: 05/01/2025 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.
Location: 04/30/2025 - Senate Appropriations
Summary: Current law generally requires, as a condition precedent to the issuance, reinstatement, reactivation, renewal, or continued maintenance of a license, a licensed contractor or applicant for licensure to have on file at all times with the Contractors State License Board a current and valid Certificate of Workers' Compensation Insurance or Certification of Self-Insurance in the applicant's or licensee's business name, as specified. Current law generally makes a violation of these provisions a misdemeanor. Current law exempts from this requirement an applicant or licensee who has no employees, provided that they file a statement with the board before the issuance, reinstatement, reactivation, or continued maintenance of a license certifying that they do not employ any person, as specified, and who does not hold a specified license issued by the board, including a C-8 license, as defined. Current law repeals these provisions on January 1, 2028. Current law, commencing January 1, 2028, removes the above-specified exemptions, and instead exempts from the above-described filing requirement an applicant or licensee organized as a joint venture that has no employees, provided that they file a statement with the board before the issuance, reinstatement, reactivation, or continued maintenance of a license certifying that they do not employ any person, as specified. Current law requires the board, by no later than January 1, 2027, to establish a process and procedure to verify that applicants or licensees without an employee or employees are eligible for exemption from the workers' compensation insurance requirement, and authorizes the process or procedure to include an audit, proof, or other means, to verify eligibility. This bill would require that verification process or procedure to include an audit, proof, or other means to obtain evidence to verify eligibility for exemption from the workers' compensation insurance requirement. The bill would also require the board to report its proposed verification process to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2027. (Based on 05/01/2025 text)
Position: Oppose

Health Care

AB 280 (Aguiar-Curry, D) Health care coverage: provider directories.
Current Text: 01/21/2025 - Introduced **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 01/21/2025
Status: 04/23/2025 - In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to suspense file.
Location: 04/23/2025 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE
Summary: The Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 provides for the licensure and regulation of health care service plans by the Department of Managed Health Care, and makes a willful violation of the act a crime. Current law provides for the regulation of health insurers by the Department of Insurance. Current law requires a health care service plan and a health insurer that contracts with providers for alternative rates of payment to publish and maintain a provider directory or directories with information on contracting providers that deliver health care services enrollees or insureds, and requires a health care service plan and health insurer to regularly update its printed and online provider directory or directories, as specified. Current law authorizes the departments to require a plan or insurer to provide coverage for all covered health care services provided to an enrollee or insured who reasonably relied on materially inaccurate, incomplete, or misleading information contained in a plan's or insurer's provider directory or directories. This bill would require a plan or insurer to annually verify and delete inaccurate listings from its provider directories, and would require a provider directory to be 60% accurate on July 1, 2026, with increasing required percentage accuracy benchmarks to be met each year until the directories are 95% accurate on or before July 1, 2029. The bill would subject a plan or insurer to administrative penalties for failure to meet the prescribed benchmarks. The bill would require a plan or insurer to provide coverage for all covered health care services provided to an enrollee or insured who reasonably relied on inaccurate, incomplete, or misleading information contained in a health plan or policy's provider directory or directories and to reimburse the provider the out-of-network amount for those services. The bill would prohibit a provider from collecting an additional amount from an enrollee or insured other than the applicable in-network cost sharing. The bill would require a plan or insurer to provide information about in-network providers to enrollees and insureds upon request, and would limit the cost-sharing amounts an enrollee or insured is required to pay for services from those providers under specified circumstances. (Based on 01/21/2025 text)
Position: Watch

Labor & Employment

AB 1015 (Patel, D) **Discrimination and harassment prevention training.**
Current Text: 02/20/2025 - Introduced **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 02/20/2025
Status: 03/10/2025 - Referred to Com. on L. & E.

Location: 03/10/2025 - Assembly Labor and Employment
Summary: Current law requires a specified employer with 5 or more employees to, by January 1, 2021, provide at least 2 hours of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment to all supervisory employees and at least one hour of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment to all nonsupervisory employees in California and, after that date, once every 2 years. Current law requires that a method be provided for employees who have completed the training to save electronically and print a certificate of completion. Current law requires that an employee who has received training in compliance with these provisions within the prior 2 years either from a current or a prior employer be given, and be required to read and acknowledge receipt of, the employer's antiharassment policy within 6 months of assuming the employee's new position and requires that the employee then be put on a 2-year tracking schedule based on the employee's last training. This bill would authorize an employer to satisfy the training requirements by demonstrating that the employee possesses a certificate of completion within the past 2 years. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)
Position: Watch

AB 1221 (Bryan, D) Workplace surveillance tools.
Current Text: 04/21/2025 - Amended **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 02/21/2025
Last Amended: 04/21/2025
Status: 05/01/2025 - VOTE: Do pass as amended and be re-referred to the Committee on [Appropriations] (PASS)
Location: 05/01/2025 - Assembly Appropriations
Summary: Would generally regulate the use of workplace surveillance tools and an employer's use of worker data. The bill would, among other things, require an employer, at least 30 days before introducing a workplace surveillance tool, to provide a worker who will be affected a written notice that includes, among other things, a description of the worker data to be collected, the intended purpose of the workplace surveillance tool, and how this form of worker surveillance is necessary to meet that purpose. The bill would define "employer" to include public employers, as specified. The bill would prohibit an employer from transferring, selling, disclosing, or licensing worker data to a vendor, unless the vendor is under contract to analyze or interpret the worker data and the contract includes certain terms. The bill would prohibit an employer from using certain workplace surveillance tools, including a workplace surveillance tool that incorporates facial, gait, or emotion recognition technology. The bill would require the Labor Commissioner to enforce the bill's provisions, would authorize an employee to bring a civil action for specified remedies for a violation of the bill's provisions, and would authorize a public prosecutor to enforce the provisions. The bill would subject an employer who violates the bill's provisions to a civil penalty of $500 for each violation. The bill would define various terms for purposes of its provisions. (Based on 04/21/2025 text)
Position: Oppose

AB 1331 (Elhawary, D) Workplace surveillance.
Current Text: 04/28/2025 - Amended **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 02/21/2025
Last Amended: 04/28/2025
Status: 05/01/2025 - Re-referred to Com. on APPR. pursuant to Assembly Rule 96.
Location: 05/01/2025 - Assembly Appropriations
Summary: Current law establishes the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement within the Department of Industrial Relations. Current law authorizes the division, which is headed by the Labor Commissioner, to enforce the Labor Code and all labor laws of the state the enforcement of which is not specifically vested in any other officer, board or commission. This bill would limit the use of workplace surveillance tools, as defined, by employers, including by prohibiting an employer from monitoring or surveilling workers in off-duty areas, as specified. The bill would provide workers with the right to disable or leave behind workplace surveillance tools that are on their person or in their possession during off-duty hours, as specified. (Based on 04/28/2025 text)

Pharmacy

AB 1460 (Rogers, D) **Prescription drug pricing.**
Current Text: 04/24/2025 - Amended **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 02/21/2025
Last Amended: 04/24/2025
Status: 04/28/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.
Calendar: 05/05/25 #124 A-THIRD READING FILE - ASSEMBLY BILLS
Location: 04/28/2025 - Assembly THIRD READING
Summary: Would prohibit a prescription drug manufacturer from engaging in discriminatory practices that would impose additional conditions, prohibit, restrict, deny, or interfere with a qualifying nonhospital 340B community clinic's purchase or

delivery of a drug subject to federal pricing requirements if the qualifying nonhospital 340B community clinic utilizes a specified pharmacy, including a contract pharmacy, that dispenses the drug to an eligible patient of the qualifying nonhospital 340B community clinic. The bill would define “discriminatory practices” and “qualifying nonhospital 340B community clinic” for these purposes. The bill would make a related intent statement. (Based on 04/24/2025 text)
Position: Support

Technology & A. I.

SB 7 (McNerney, D) **Employment: automated decision systems.**
Current Text: 05/01/2025 - Amended **HTML** **PDF**
Introduced: 12/02/2024 (Spot bill)
Last Amended: 05/01/2025
Status: 05/01/2025 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.
Location: 04/30/2025 - Senate Appropriations
Summary: Current law requires the Department of Technology to conduct, in coordination with other interagency bodies as it deems appropriate, a comprehensive inventory of all high-risk automated decision systems (ADS) that have been proposed for use, development, or procurement by, or are being used, developed, or procured by, any state agency. Current law establishes the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, which is composed of various departments responsible for protecting and promoting the rights and interests of workers in California, including the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, led by the Labor Commissioner, within the Department of Industrial Relations. This bill would require an employer, or a vendor engaged by the employer, to provide a written notice that an ADS, for the purpose of making employment-related decisions, not including hiring, is in use at the workplace to all workers that will be directly or indirectly affected by the ADS, as specified. The bill would require the employer or vendor to maintain a list of all ADS currently in use and would require the notice to include the updated list. The bill would require an employer or vendor to notify, as provided, a job applicant that the employer utilizes an ADS in hiring decisions. The bill would prohibit an employer or vendor from using an ADS that does certain functions and would limit the purposes and manner in which an ADS may be used to make decisions. The bill would require an employer to allow a worker to access data collected or used by an ADS and to correct errors in data, as specified. (Based on 05/01/2025 text)
Position: Oppose