



NCAPIP
National Council of Asian
Pacific Islander Physicians

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER PHYSICIANS

April 15, 2013

The Honorable Rob Bonta
Chair, Assembly Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 6005 - Sacramento, CA 95814

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Re: SUPPORT AB 463

Dear Chairman Bonta:

On behalf of the National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians (NCAPIP), I am writing to express our SUPPORT for AB 463, the Pharmaceutical Cost Transparency Act of 2015. NCAPIP is a national policy organization of physicians that advocate for optimal health for their patients and communities. NCAPIP has 9,000 members through its network of medical organizations and individual providers.

AB 463 is a reasonable step toward understanding how drugs are priced. The bill requires drug companies to submit information for only those most expensive drugs - those priced at over \$10,000 per year - allowing policymakers to look at those treatments that have the largest cost impact and minimizing the reporting requirements on drug companies. This move towards transparency can help further discussions over how we can address prices in the long term.

"Across the board in terms of health care, we're seeing a continued focus on access and quality improvement and cost containment with the end user, the patient, in mind. The pharmaceutical industry provides an essential service to consumers: medicines and life saving drugs. Unfortunately, we're seeing a significant rise in costs for certain drugs. Transparency is an integral part of quality improvement measures because it gives the public access to information, gives institutions incentives to improve, and in cases like the proposed law AB 463, can directly lead to cost containment for drugs - which is also a question of access. This bill ought to be passed; it reflects the triple aim of health reform: access, quality, and cost containment," said Dr. Dexter Louie, Chairman of the Board.

Accordingly, NCAPIP encourages your SUPPORT of AB 463. It offers a reasonable level of transparency while also protecting competition and ensuring drug manufacturers can keep proprietary information confidential.

NCAPIP puts access and patients' right first and it is imperative that we protect their right to access treatment needs. Should you have any questions please contact me at 773-537-8613 or Htran@ncapip.org

Sincerely,

Ho Luong Tran, M.D., MPH - President & CEO