

Hello SDAHU,

In late February a handful of SDAHU board members are heading to Washington DC for the annual NAHU Capitol Conference. We will be meeting with our five San Diego congressional offices to communicate the NAHU agenda including individual market stabilization, removing commissions from MLR, Medicare improvements, and the role of the agent. In addition, we will be attending breakout sessions, training workshops and listening to a number of excellent speakers. I will provide a report in a future newsletter.

Single Payer is still a hot topic with the California Nurses Association (CNA) keeping pressure on legislators to push through their sponsored bill SB 562. The State Assembly's Select Health Committee held hearings on February 5<sup>th</sup> focusing on the Implementation Considerations for Universal Coverage and on February 7<sup>th</sup> focusing on the Options for Universal Coverage. These were the last of the hearings and CAHU had representation at each one. It has been interesting to watch the hearings and get perspectives from experts on health care system options in the US and throughout the world. We will continue to monitor this ill-conceived bill and provide input as to why it won't work and ideas to improve what it already working for more than 93% of Californians.

This is a busy time for state legislation as deadlines for bills from last year to continue into 2018 and for new bills to be introduced have recently passed. As always there are a large number of proposed bills that have to do with healthcare. CAHU will be holding its annual Bill Review on March 6<sup>th</sup>. At this event the Legislative Council will review through bills that apply to our industry and recommend positions to present to the CAHU Board of Directors. Once finalized these bills become the CAHU priority bills. [For details on the priority bills](#) you can always go to the CAHU website.

Lastly, Capitol Summit is coming up May 22nd and 23<sup>rd</sup> in Sacramento. This is our chance to inform state legislators about pending state legislation, both good and bad, and offer our position as experienced, boots on the group professionals. It is a great opportunity to help improve the system. Let me or someone on the board know if you are interested in attending.

Thank you for all you do for your clients and our industry on a daily basis. Please feel free to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

Jim Morrison, RHU, REBC, CLU, HIP, CHRS

*VP of Legislation for the San Diego Association of Health Underwriters (SDAHU)*

*State Legislative Chair for the California Association of Health Underwriters (CAHU)*