



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Protecting consumers by advancing high quality, safe medical care.

Executive Office

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Gavin Newsom, Governor, State of California | Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency | Department of Consumer Affairs

August 24, 2021

The Honorable Adrin Nazarian
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4146
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1278 (Nazarian) – Support Position

Dear Assemblymember Nazarian:

The Medical Board of California (Board) considered your legislation at its August 19-20 meeting and voted to maintain its Support position. Through certain required notifications, AB 1278 would help increase awareness of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Open Payments database. This important database discloses payments made from drug and device manufacturers to physicians.

The Board also supported the prior version of the bill, which would have required a physician to disclose in writing to a patient or their representative the actual payments or transfers of value received from a drug or device company prior to the intended use or prescription of that company's product.

Although the disclosure requirements of the prior version would have provided more value to consumers, the Board continues to support AB 1278. Increased awareness of the CMS Open Payments database will help consumers make informed choices, in partnership with their physician, regarding their medical care and treatment.

Please contact Aaron Bone, Chief of Legislation and Public Affairs, at (916) 274-6251 or via email at Aaron.Bone@mbc.ca.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

William Prasifka
Executive Director

cc: Senator Anthony Portantino, Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations
Members, Senate Committee on Appropriations