

## Academic Rigor on a Legislature's Timeline



### Letter From The Director

Greetings! Welcome to CHBRP's Spring Newsletter.

The dust is beginning to settle as we emerge from CHBRP's "peak season." This year, CHBRP ventured into a few areas of our health financing system beyond the traditional state-regulated health insurance markets. We also have supported the Health Committees in their analysis of several health insurance-related bills that are similar to bills previously analyzed by CHBRP. The Committee Consultants frequently lean on relevant analyses from recent years as they draft committee analyses.



While fewer bills were referred to CHBRP in this second year of California's two-year legislative session, the rigor and fast timelines remained. Policymakers continue to grapple with the complexities of health insurance and the challenges of balancing healthcare affordability with comprehensive benefits. How health care costs should be managed and paid for, and who should bear these costs is an ongoing debate. We feel privileged to support these discussions with objective and independent findings. CHBRP was present for numerous legislative committee hearings in recent weeks and we served as a technical expert for the Senate Health Committee Chair's bill related to California's selection of a new Essential Health Benefits State Benchmark. Early in May, CHBRP will also present, per the Legislature's request, at a Joint Legislative Informational Hearing on Menopause.

As the CHBRP team completes our remaining analyses in this cycle, I wanted to thank

all of our readers and our primary clients (the elected members and the staff of the California Legislature). Many of our readers process immense amounts of complex and technical information under incredibly short deadlines. Somehow, they remain professional and friendly and ask fantastic questions, despite the pressures of their work. I also want to take a moment to thank each CHBRP contributor for their dedication and high-quality work. Many of our contributors work on analyses while juggling other projects, research, and teaching responsibilities. Without their commitment, this work would not be possible.

In the weeks ahead, we will continue to answer questions on our analyses and track ongoing amendments. Over the summer, we'll conduct our annual stakeholder meetings and take on some important projects. Until next time, we wish all of our readers well. If you have any questions or suggestions, we're happy to hear from you. Email me at [garen.corbett@chbrp.org](mailto:garen.corbett@chbrp.org) anytime.

Warmly,  
Garen

## Updates from CHBRP

### CHBRP's Analyses

CHBRP completed 10 analyses in 2024, with a forthcoming publication of the analysis of AB 2180, as amended. Additional updates may be requested as bills are amended. All completed analyses are available on CHBRP's website.

Take a look at the "**Status of Bills**" page to see the portions of CHBRP analyses that remain relevant after amendments are made to analyzed bills. As several bills from 2023 have been reintroduced, CHBRP's analyses remain useful when discussing potential impacts. This is available on CHBRP's website under Completed Analyses.

# Location of Bills Analyzed by CHBRP

As of April 30, 2024

	Passed First Health Committee	Passed First Appropriations Committee	Passed Out of First Chamber
AB 2028 Medical Loss Ratio			
AB 2180 Cost Sharing*			
AB 2467 Menopause*			
AB 2668 Cranial Prostheses			
AB 2843 Rape and Sexual Assault			
AB 3059 Human Milk			
AB 3245 Colorectal Cancer Screening*			
SB 1008 Obesity Treatment Parity*			
SB 1180 Emergency Medical Services*			
SB 1236 Medicare Supplement*			

\*Amended since CHBRP published its analysis

Completed Analyses

Status of Bills

## Excellence in Management Award

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
GAREN CORBETT,  
DIRECTOR OF CHBRP!**



CHBRP staff (John Lewis, Adara Citron, and An-Chi Tsou) were honored to nominate Garen Corbett for University of California, Berkeley's Excellence in Management Award. On Tuesday, April 30th, Garen was presented with the award by UC Berkeley's Chancellor, Carol Christ. This year's award theme was "Cultivating Staff, Harvesting Success: Recognizing Excellence in Management". Without his dedication and exceptional leadership, the program and staff would not be as successful and well respected, both among its contributors and among external stakeholders throughout California and nationally.

## Say "Hi" at AcademyHealth's ARM

Many of CHBRP's Task Force Members will be at AcademyHealth's **Annual**

**Research Meeting** in late June in Baltimore, Maryland. Task Force Members are presenting both CHBRP-relevant research as well as research related to their other projects. Take a look at what they'll be presenting:

### **Sunday, June 30th**

- Participating in a Nurse Practitioner Fellowship Increases New Graduates' Preparation for Practice (Poster), **Amy Quan** with Janet Coffman, included in the Best Poster Sessions for Health Workforce
- Nurse-midwives' experiences addressing social drivers of health, relationships with other clinicians, burnout, and future practice plans (Poster), **Amy Quan**
- Direct Entry Midwives: Opportunities to Advance Birth Equity and Barriers They Face in Practice (Poster), **Amy Quan**
- State Innovations in Payment and Delivery (Chair of session), **Dylan Roby**
- The Cumulative and Relative Contributions of Social Determinants of Health on Diverse Patient Populations Served By Health Resources and Services Administration-Funded Health Centers (Poster), **Naderah Pourat**
- Comparing Service Utilization Patterns of Medicaid Patients with High Need and High Costs Following Emergency Department Visits (Poster), **Naderah Pourat**
- The Association of Social Determinants of Health with Oral Health Status Among Patients of Health Resources and Services Administration Funded Health Centers in the United States (Poster), **Naderah Pourat**
- A New Approach to Understanding Types of Emergency Department Visits Among High-Need High-Cost Medicaid Patients (Poster), **Naderah Pourat**

### **Monday, July 1st**

- Nurse Practitioner Roles and Employment Plans at the Advent of Expanded Scope of Practice (Poster), **Amy Quan**
- The Causal Effect of Hospital Services That Address Social Determinants of Health on Outpatient Follow-up of Psychiatric Inpatients (Podium Presentation), **Timothy Brown**
- Painful Body and Stressed Mind: The Causal Effects of Poor Neighborhood Quality on Health in Older Adults (Poster), **Timothy Brown**
- Using Machine Learning to Study Novel Measures of Social Determinants of Health and Their Associations with Suicide Rates in the USA from 2009-2019 (Poster), **Timothy Brown**
- Associations between Individual-Level and Contextual-Level Social Determinants of Health and Suicide Death Among Medicaid-Enrolled Youth (Podium Presentation), **Timothy Brown**
- HRSA-Funded Health Centers Reduce Health Care Expenditures of Complex California Medicaid Managed Care Beneficiaries (Poster), **Naderah Pourat**
- Traveling Beyond the Doctor's Office: How Loneliness and Transportation Intersect for Older Adults (Poster), **Bethney Bonilla-Herrera**
- Cancer Registrar Workload and Staffing Study: Guidelines for Hospital Cancer Registry Programs (Poster), **Jacqueline Miller**

### **Posters Based on CHBRP Analyses:**

- Prior Authorization in California: An Independent Study at the Request of the California Legislature (Poster; Sunday, June 30th), **An-Chi Tsou, Adara Citron, and Garen Corbett**

- Leveraging NLP Techniques to Identify Health Policy-Relevant Evidence Gaps (Poster; Sunday, June 30th), **Meghan Weyrich, Dominique Ritley, and Elizabeth Magnan**
- Patient-Level Social Risks Screening in Clinical Settings (Poster; Monday, July 1st), **Elizabeth Magnan, Dominique Ritley, Margaret Fix, Adara Citron, and Dylan Roby**



## Recent Publications

CHBRP has recently published or updated a number of documents:

### Resources

- Federal Recommendations and the California and Federal Preventive Services Mandates
- Deductibles in State-Regulated Health Insurance for 2025
- Pharmacy Benefit Coverage in State-Regulated Health Insurance for 2025
- Sources of Health Insurance in California for 2025



### External Publications

- Health Insurance Mandates for Nonpharmacological Pain Treatments in 7 US States, published in *JAMA Network Open* in April 2024

Additionally, CHBRP published a set of **issue briefs** about Essential Health Benefits in August 2023. These issue briefs may be useful as the California Legislature considers re-evaluating the State's Benchmark Plan.

[View Publications](#)

## Task Force and NAC Spotlight

Each newsletter, CHBRP features two Task Force or NAC members and the important work they do outside of CHBRP. See more information about all of our Task Force and NAC members on CHBRP's [website](#).

### Katrine Padilla, MPP

Katrine Padilla serves as a project policy analyst for the UC Davis Center for Healthcare Policy and Research (CHPR) where she provides research and project coordination to principal investigators at the center.

Ms. Padilla appreciates the versatility of her work. She manages an array of different projects, ranging from projects invested in quality measures of hospitals to those with a mental health scope. She has even had the opportunity to venture beyond the public health field with a pilot program, the California State Policy Evidence Consortium, where she has delved into environmental policy.

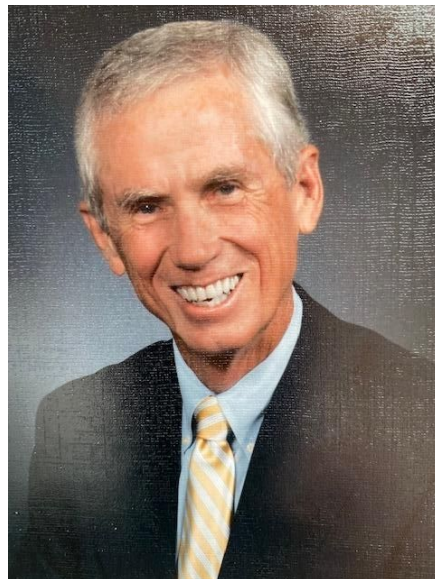


As it pertains to CHBRP, Katrine Padilla is a newer addition to the Task Force, serving as a member of the public health team. She provides research support to her colleagues as they construct public health analyses. Ms. Padilla finds her collaboration within CHBRP to be particularly interesting as the organization works as a well-oiled machine, with the ability to produce quality analyses in a restrictive time frame due to its high sense of organization. Additionally, working within CHBRP has given her the unique chance of working alongside faculty across the University of California campuses.

Across Ms. Padilla's works, she is most proud that she can see the tangible results and policy implications stemming from her time and effort on various projects. Additionally, it is gratifying knowing that the research she contributes to is utilized to inform decision-making in policy for Californians.

## **Allen Feezor, MA**

Allen Feezor is a member of CHBRP's National Advisory Council (NAC). Through his varied career experiences, with roles ranging from a health insurance regulator with the North Carolina State Health and Human services for ten years to a three-year stint leading the California Public Employees Retirement System, he can offer a unique perspective when reviewing and advising CHBRP's work. This enables Mr. Feezor to aid the Task Force in any potential roadblocks they face while developing bill analyses. As a member of the NAC, Mr. Feezor appreciates that CHBRP's work puts honest research into public policy. It allows for the legislature to make decisions based off of facts instead of emotion. Consequentially, this contributes to more certainty in health policy decision making.



Prior to his retirement, Mr. Feezor served as the Former Deputy Secretary for North Carolina's Department of Health and Human Services. While in active retirement, Mr. Feezor has contributed to several public health ventures. These endeavors include being an expert rebuttal witness on an ad hoc basis for the U.S. Department of Justice's investigations regarding anti-trust between insurance policy providers and payers in certain markets. Additionally, he is on the Board of a Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Center which focuses on

building capacity in rehabilitation and dry out centers. He just recently termed out as a member of the State Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) for North Carolina, which has objectives centered around certifying healthcare facilities, specifically those in small and rural areas, in order to grant these facilities with financial resources for new equipment and access of new services.

Mr. Feezor finds it rewarding that his contributions to health policy allows for breakthrough in new or difficult to navigate health care areas. Some of these areas include gaps in drug rehabilitation and stabilizing struggling parts of the health insurance market. Furthermore, through his career, Mr. Feezor was most proud of the connections he has made through mentoring. He has been able to build strong relationships with the up-and-coming individuals in the health policy field, where he has provided them with advice in order to help them grow within their career.

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