

Academic Rigor on a Legislature's Timeline

Letter From the Director

Greetings! I hope you are all staying cool and enjoying the summer season. Welcome to CHBRP's Summer Newsletter.

It has been a busy few months for the CHBRP team. We have been actively attending legislative committee hearings and answering policymakers' thoughtful questions as bills make their way through the Legislature.

Internally, we are firing on all cylinders to prepare for next year. We have several internal workgroups underway designed to enhance our reports, fine-tune our methodologies, and offer greater clarity in how we present our findings. To support our ongoing work and strengthen our connections with external partners, the CHBRP team is in the middle of conducting dozens of stakeholder meetings. We are also thrilled to welcome our newest cohort of summer interns to the team, who are jumping into data visualization and policy research projects to help us produce resources for our readers and prepare for next year's legislative session.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of our work!

Until next time.

Warmly,
Garen



Updates from CHBRP

CHBRP's 2026 Analyses

CHBRP analyzed 14 bills this year and is monitoring their progress as they move through the legislative cycle. In June, CHBRP completed an abbreviated fiscal analysis of [Senate Bill 331](#), which would require health insurance coverage of hearing aids for users under age 21 in large group plans. The Legislature may request additional updates as bills are amended. All completed analyses are available on CHBRP's website.

Take a look at our [Amendments and Analysis Updates](#) page to see the portions of CHBRP analyses that remain relevant after amendments are made to analyzed bills.

See the [Completed Analyses](#) section of our website to review analyses, technical briefs, and infographics. All previously completed analyses are also available on CHBRP's website.

Location of Bills Analyzed by CHBRP

As of July 29, 2026

	Passed First House	Passed Second House Policy Hearing	Passed Second House Fiscal Hearing
AB 298 Cost sharing			
AB 1570* Diagnostic imaging			
AB 1682 Scalp cooling			
AB 1843* Communicable diseases: Hepatitis B and C			
AB 1887* Prescription drug coverage for rare diseases			
AB 1900 Guaranteed Health Care for All			
AB 1906* Cervical cancer screening			
AB 1970* Mental health or substance use disorders			
SB 331 Hearing Aids			
SB 950* Dementia			
SB 1089* Preventive Care Act			
SB 1094* Prescription drugs			
SB 1199* Prescription drug cost sharing			
SB 1309* Lung cancer			

*Amended since CHBRP published its analysis

Amendments and Analysis Updates

Completed Analyses

Recent Publications



We are thrilled to launch our new explainer series dedicated to exploring health disparities impacting California communities. We will be rolling out new explainers in this series throughout the summer. Also be sure to check out the corresponding Nuts and Bolts for each topic!

Telehealth: [Explainer](#) and [Nuts and Bolts](#)

Maternal Health: [Explainer](#) and [Nuts and Bolts](#)

[See all Publications](#)

Recent Presentations

CHBRP was pleased to co-host with the UC Student and Policy Center in Sacramento a July discussion on the growing role of artificial intelligence in healthcare. [Dr. Julia Adler-Milstein](#) of UC San Francisco and [Tyler Katzenberger](#) of POLITICO discussed how AI affects clinicians and patients as well as the policy guardrails California may consider as AI adoption expands.



See CHBRP's [recap of the event](#) on our social media!

Summer Intern Spotlight

We are thrilled to be joined by four student interns this summer. See CHBRP's social media to see what they have been up to ([part 1](#) and [part 2](#))!

Lluvia Botello

Policy Intern

Lluvia Botello is a Policy Intern at CHBRP and a Master of Public Health candidate in Health Policy and Management at UC Berkeley. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Public Health from American University. Prior to starting graduate school, Lluvia worked across the

Government Affairs and Health Equity and Social Justice teams at the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), where she led programming focused on rural health systems, cross-sector collaboration, and supported local health departments in understanding and operationalizing federal policy priorities. Lluvia is particularly interested in how policy, delivery systems, and financing structures can be better aligned to improve access and outcomes for communities, and she looks forward to deepening her expertise in health benefits policy during her time at CHBRP.



Madeline Christmann

Data Visualization Intern

Madeline Christmann is a Data Visualization Intern at CHBRP. Prior to health policy work, she worked as an EMT for six years, where she gained firsthand insight into the challenges patients face navigating healthcare systems. She then spent three years in social impact and sustainability communications for pharmaceutical companies, supporting the development of Environmental, Social, and

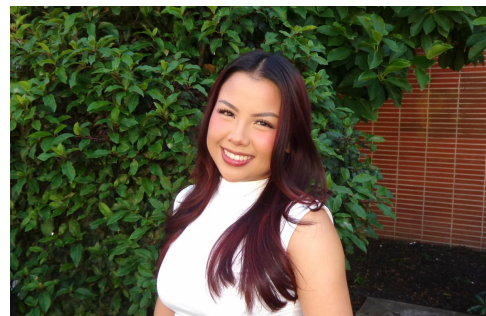
Governance (ESG) reports and educational campaigns focused on access to medicines, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I), and environmental sustainability initiatives. In addition to her communications experience, she has contributed to academic publishing through manuscript review and editorial work related to trauma, violence, and mental health research.

She graduated from the University of Michigan with a B.A. in Community and Global Health and a minor in Spanish Literature, Arts, and Culture, and is currently pursuing her Master of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley with a concentration in Health Policy and Management.

Kaitlin Gaspar

Data Visualization Intern

Kaitlin Gaspar is a Data Visualization Intern at CHBRP and an MPH student studying Environmental Health Sciences at UC Berkeley School of Public Health. She completed her undergraduate degree in Public Health at UC Berkeley. Before joining CHBRP, Kaitlin gained experience through leadership and public health-focused work that strengthened her passion for community-centered health policy. At CHBRP, she is excited to support research and policy projects that make complex health information more accessible to Californians. She is especially interested in policies related to health equity and improving access to care for underserved populations. In her free time, she enjoys dancing, cooking new recipes, reading, and spending time with her two cats.





Dylan Ong

Policy Intern

Dylan Ong is a Policy Intern at CHBRP, who just graduated with her B.A. in Public Health Policy from UC Irvine. After her experiences within communities at UCI and an FQHC, Dylan gained an interest in health policy in hopes to bridge gaps in quality, cost, and access for underserved communities. Prior to

CHBRP, Dylan worked to increase access to sexual health resources and education, conduct maternal health policy research, and increase cultural competency in care. At CHBRP, she is most excited to learn about how financing systems can impact access and quality and contribute to making complex health insurance information more digestible for legislators and Californians. In her free time, she can be found crafting, trying new foods, and going on walks.

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