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**California Health Plan Industry Responds to Governor's Executive
Order Banning Balance Billing**
Statement from Christopher Ohman, President/CEO, California Association of Health Plans

Sacramento, CA – “We applaud the Governor for taking this step toward protecting consumers from the practice of balance billing. We have endorsed a ban on this practice and have proposed an alternative dispute resolution process that protects patients from being used as leverage by a small but vocal group of medical providers. Health plans have a strong interest in ensuring a vibrant network of physicians who are compensated fairly and consistent with market standards. A ban on balance billing gives a strong incentive for providers and plans to work out payment issues without placing the consumer in the middle of these disputes.”

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The California Association of Health Plans is a statewide trade association representing 38 Knox-Keene licensed health plans that provide health coverage to more than 21 million Californians. The Association's mission is to improve the health of California's communities by promoting the growth of health plans dedicated to providing high quality, affordable, accessible health care to their members.