



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The California Association of Health Plans Announces New Director of Legal and Regulatory Affairs

SACRAMENTO – The California Association of Health Plans (CAHP) today announced that Stephanie Shirkey has joined its staff as Director of Legal and Regulatory Affairs. She will manage CAHP's regulatory efforts with the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) and other stakeholders on behalf of CAHP's 48 full-service health plans.

"I am pleased to announce that Stephanie Shirkey has joined the CAHP team as our new Director of Legal and Regulatory Affairs," said Charles Bacchi, President and CEO of the California Association of Health Plans. "Stephanie brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in the laws that govern health plans and our health care system and will add tremendous value to our advocacy efforts on behalf of our member health plans."

Stephanie brings more than a decade of experience working on legal matters before the California Legislature. She most recently worked in the Office of Legislative Counsel where she supervised a team of attorneys in preparing bills and legal advice for members of the Legislature on a wide variety of topics, including managed care laws, particularly pertaining to the Affordable Care Act, as well as laws regulating health facilities and health professions. Stephanie also wrote opinions on Medicaid finance and provisions of the Knox-Keene Act. Earlier in her career, Stephanie drafted legislation that helped implement the creation of Covered California and the state's essential health benefits package. Stephanie received her Juris Doctorate degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law and her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Berkeley.

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CAHP is a statewide association representing 48 full-service health plans. Through legislative advocacy, education and collaboration with other member organizations, CAHP works to sustain a strong environment in which our member plans can provide access to products that offer choice and flexibility to the more than 25 million members they serve. For more information, please visit http://www.calhealthplans.org/ or call (916) 552-2910.