



California Coalition on  
Workers' Compensation



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CALIFORNIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



April 27, 2016

The Honorable Rocky Chavez  
California State Assembly, 76<sup>th</sup> District  
State Capitol, Room 2170  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Subject: AB 2407 (Chavez) - Workers' Compensation**  
**As Proposed to be Amended: OPPOSE**

The California Chamber of Commerce, the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and the California Coalition on Workers' Compensation (CCWC) - collectively representing tens of thousands of public and private employers across California - must respectfully OPPOSE your AB 2407 as the legislation is unnecessary and will add more uncertainty to an already confusing system of requesting and approving medical treatment requests.

AB 2407, as currently in print prior to proposed amendments, is a complete departure from the Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule (MTUS) that is currently used to determine if medical treatment provided to injured workers is consistent with nationally-based, peer-reviewed, and evidence-based guidelines. The sponsor, the California Chiropractic Association, has a website dedicated to the bill that attempts to conflate a very serious issue (the opioid abuse epidemic) with a non-existent issue (a perceived lack of conservative care in California's workers' compensation system). The bill, as introduced, is clearly an attempt by a medical specialty to bypass evidence-based medicine and should be opposed.

AB 2407, as proposed to be amended, would instead delete the problematic language described above and instead, without explanation of purpose, restate current law - that medical treatment meant to combat chronic back pain is to be determined through proper application of the MTUS. In addition, current law contains caps on some treatment modalities that have been wildly abused and utilized as profit centers in the past. The inclusion of the language contained in the proposed amendment would cause statutory conflict that would have to subsequently be worked out in the courts. That does not simplify the delivery of medical treatment, it creates further delay for the employer and the injured worker.

For these reasons we are respectfully opposed to AB 2407.