

2022 Legislative Items of Interest

Colorado Community Health Centers



The Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN), on behalf of Colorado's 20 federally qualified Community Health Centers (CHCs), closely monitors state legislation and funding that impacts CHCs. CCHN's top policy priorities for 2022 include:

- Protect and grow programs that support CHCs in the state budget (Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program), Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+), the Colorado Indigent Care Program (CICP), the Primary Care Fund (PCF), School-Based Health Centers, and others).
- Protect and refine CHC cost-based reimbursement.
- Support recruitment, retention, and development of CHC workforce.
- Shape, monitor, and progress state payment reform programs.
- Influence state health system transformation to increase investment in primary care and the uninsured.

Below are CCHN's priority legislative items as of March 16, 2022.

ACTIVELY SUPPORT: HB22-1122 Pharmacy Benefit Manager Prohibited Practices

Sponsors: Rep. Will, Sen. Jaquez Lewis

This bill would prohibit health insurers, Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs), and other third-party payers from discriminating against entities/pharmacies participating in the 340B program. Specifically, the bill would prohibit the refusal to reimburse a 340B covered entity for dispensing 340B drugs, imposing additional requirements or restrictions on 340B covered entities, or reimbursing a 340B covered entity for a 340B drug at a rate lower than the amount paid for the same drug to pharmacies that are not 340B covered entities.

- *Potential CHC Impact:* All 20 CHCs participate in the 340B Drug Pricing Program and rely on 340B savings to fund important services. Carrier and PBM discriminatory contracting practices negatively impact Colorado CHCs and their ability to provide affordable prescription medications to patients.

ACTIVELY SUPPORT: HB22-1289 Health Benefits For CO Children & Pregnant Persons

Sponsors: Rep. Gonzales-Gutierrez, Rep. McCluskie, Sen. Moreno

This bill would expand Medicaid coverage to pregnant people who would be eligible if not for their immigration status, and continues that coverage through 12 months postpartum. It would also provide comprehensive coverage to undocumented children who would otherwise be eligible for Medicaid or CHP+. In addition, the bill would create a special enrollment period for pregnancy on the Colorado health insurance marketplace, make breast pumps a covered benefit for perinatal people enrolled in Medicaid and CHP+, improve the quality of coverage through the Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise, and do a number of other things to improve perinatal support in Colorado.

- *Potential CHC Impact:* Colorado CHCs serve patients regardless of their documentation status. This bill would expand health coverage to more patients CHCs are already serving, and increase access to comprehensive health care for more Coloradans.