

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 30, 2023

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2023–24 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 576

Introduced by Assembly Member Weber
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Boerner Horvath, Pellerin, and
Wilson)
(Coauthor: Senator Ashby)

February 8, 2023

An act to add Section 14131.07 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 576, as amended, Weber. Medi-Cal: reimbursement for abortion.

Existing law establishes the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid program provisions. Existing law provides that abortion is a covered benefit under Medi-Cal. Existing regulation authorizes reimbursement for specified medications used to terminate a pregnancy through the 70th day from the first day of the recipient's last menstrual period.

~~This bill would require the department to fully reimburse providers for the provision of medication to terminate a pregnancy that aligns with clinical guidelines, evidence-based research, and the discretion of the provider.~~

This bill would require the department, by March 1, 2024, to review and update Medi-Cal coverage policies for medication abortion to align with current evidence-based clinical guidelines. After the initial review, the bill would require the department to update its Medi-Cal coverage

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

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