



Membership Alert

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Another \$8 million Medi-Cal Rate Increase for The Ambulance Industry

June 14, 1999

The California Legislature's Budget Conference Committee has just concluded its work with an agreement on an \$80 million 1999-2000 State spending plan. The Conference Report now goes to the full houses of the Legislature for vote, and then to the Governor for final approval before the start of the fiscal year on July 1.

It is with great pleasure I announce that we have been able to achieve agreement in the budget conference report for an additional \$8 million (\$4 million general fund, \$4 million federal matching funds) Medi-Cal rate increase for ambulance transportation services.

This new \$8 million Medi-Cal rate agreement is identical to last year's augmentation, and if fully enacted will essentially double the rate increase gained in last year's Medi-Cal base rate.

There is still much work to be done; first, the budget must pass intact in both houses of the Legislature and we must then work the administration to ensure we survive the Governor's "blue pencil". To that end, the CAA Legislative Committee and I along with Joe Yocca will be back with recommendations to the CAA Board for further legislative action. **In the meantime, we are recommending that the CAA members remain "low-key" and provide no action on this item until it passes the Legislature intact.**

Thank you for your attention to this memorandum. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further information.