

August 27, 2007

To: CIHC Board & AIHA Local Section Presidents

From: Judy Barrett Miller

Re: AB 515 (Lieber) Senate Appropriations Hearing

AB 515 was heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee today and based on the committee analysis of the costs associated with the bill, it was placed on the "Suspense" file, as we predicted it would. The strong labor support however, may help this bill get out of committee when they take up all measures with a price tag over \$100k. early next week - which is when we'll have the final vote from the Committee. With an expected annual price tag of approx \$250k - \$500k, there may not be money left in the State's til to fund this mandated effort, especially while the existing voluntary, and thoughtful process moves forward.

While the suspense file recommendation was not a susprise, new policy-related amendments presented in committee by the author, certainly were. An electronic version of the amendments or the bill itself in amended form, should be available by late tomorrow and I will forward the language to all of you.

CIHC was the only non-business related organization to testify in opposition. In fact, a coalition of organizations opposed to AB 515 has formed and they are already strategizing around a Governor's veto. CIHC has been invited to participate in those meetings with the Governor's legislative staff.