

Secular Advocacy Day 2024

✓ **AB-2924: Prohibit Underage Marriage**

Currently, **minors can marry** under certain conditions, such as obtaining a court order and having parental or guardian consent. This bill would **prohibit marriage involving minors**.



- In 2021, approximately 8,700 children were married in California.
- Children as young as 12 have been forced into marriage.
- There are currently no restrictions prohibiting children of any age from being married.
- This law would close existing loopholes that would reclassify underage marriage as a sex crime.
- This law would prohibit marriage under the age of 18, without exception.
- The bill is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, April 23.

✓ **AB-798: Prevent Female Genital Mutilation**

Existing law prohibits female genital mutilation, but this bill will **remove religious or consent-based defenses, strengthen penalties**, and make it a **felony** to transport a minor out of state for this.



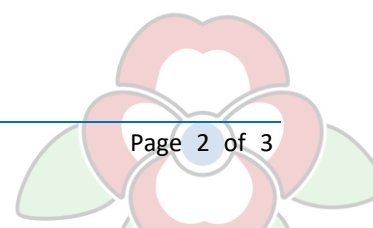
- This law would make explicit that it is not a defense to assert that the conduct is required as a matter of religion, custom, ritual, or standard practice, or that the individual on whom it is performed, or the individual's parent or guardian consented to the procedure.
- The law states that evidence that a person removes or causes, permits, or facilitates the removal of a minor from this state may be used as circumstantial evidence to establish a violation of any crime arising from the commission of female genital mutilation.
- The law defines female genital mutilation as any procedure that involves partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for nonmedical reasons.
- The law would specify that female genital mutilation is child abuse.

✓ AB-2339: Improve Telehealth Access

Medi-Cal has **limitations** on how and when doctors can use technology to see patients. This bill aims to **make it easier** for healthcare providers to offer care through **video and phone calls**.



- This bill authorizes health care providers to establish new patient relationships using asynchronous store and forward when patient requests an asynchronous store and forward modality. This refers to a method in telemedicine where patient data (like images or videos) is collected and then sent to a healthcare provider (at a different location) for assessment. It doesn't require real-time interaction, allowing the provider to review the information and respond later.
- Existing law authorizes health care providers to establish a new patient relationship using an audio-only, synchronous interaction when the patient requests an audio-only modality or attests that they do not have access to video.
- This bill would remove, from that exception, the option of the patient attesting that they do not have access to video.
- This bill would authorize the health care provider to establish new patient relationships via a mobile device application (a mobile app).



Additional Bills We Support

✓ SB-729: Fertility and Infertility



The current state is that California health care plans have specific coverages for various treatments, but may have **limitations or exclusions for infertility treatments**. This bill would **require** health care plans to **include comprehensive coverage** for the diagnosis and treatment of infertility and fertility services starting, ensuring that these services are accessible without discrimination based on personal characteristics.

✓ AB-2200: CalCare



The current state is that California has various health care programs and systems in place for its residents. This bill would establish a **universal single-payer health care system** called CalCare, aiming to provide all Californians with comprehensive health care coverage funded by broad-based revenue.

✓ SB-1196: End-of-Life Option Act



Modifies the End-of-Life Option Act to expand options for adults with an incurable illness or disease that will result in their natural death who want, and qualify for, aid-in-dying medicine.

