

Testimony Presented by:
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Good morning. I am Lourdes Rivera, Staff Attorney at the National Health Law Program (NHeLP). Thank

A. AB 525 Ensures Access to Important Reproductive Health Services for Low-Income Women

The vast majority of women [\(1\)](#) receiving Medi-Cal are [\(2\)](#) low-income women. Reproductive health services are critical for

B. AB 525 Empowers Consumers with Information

For example, AB 525 will ensure that managed care consumers receive the information that they need a

C. AB 525 Ensures Choice of Providers

By requiring health plans whose providers restrict access to reproductive health services to contract with

D. AB 525 Promotes Coordination of Care

Women's health services also can be needlessly fragmented if the comprehensive set of Medi-Cal cover

E. AB 525 Mirrors Effective Authority in Other States

AB 525 provides the Attorney General with the authority to oversee both nonprofit-to-nonprofit and nonp

F. AB 525 Preserves Religious Freedom While Promoting Access

AB 525 also furthers the public interest of preserving access to services by targeting limited taxpayer res

FOOTNOTES

1 . UCLA Center for Health Policy Research & Women's Health Collaborative, Wo

2. Department of Health Servs., 1998 Managed Care Annual Statistical Report (M