

# ***ALERT UPDATE***

## **3 FOR 3 ON BILLS WITHDRAWN**

**22 April 2009**

**Sacramento** - In an unusual series, the third bill in the past 3 months that would have severely restricted conscientious objection by medical professionals was gutted and amended this week into an unrelated issue. AB 67, formerly *Pharmacy Patient Protection Act of 2008* by Assemblyman Pedro Nava (D- Santa Barbara) is no longer a threat to pharmacists; it now deals with *Elections: campaign advertisements and Communications*.

In summary:

**AB 120**, formerly *Health care providers: reasonable disclosure: reproductive choices*, by **Assemblywoman Mary Hayashi** (D- Hayward) would have denied medical professionals the right of refusing involvement with abortions on ethical, moral, or religious grounds. It was withdrawn.

**SB 374**, formerly *Health Care Providers: reasonable disclosure: reproductive choices*, by **Senator Ron Calderon** (D- Montebello), was virtually the same as AB 120 and would have denied doctors, nurses, and medical assistants the right of refusing involvement with abortions on moral or religious grounds. It was withdrawn.

**AB 67**, formerly *Pharmacy Patient Protection Act of 2008*, by **Assemblyman Pedro Nava** (D- Santa Barbara), would have denied pharmacists the right of refusing involvement with chemical abortions on moral or religious grounds currently protected by the California Constitution. It was withdrawn.

Your letters, calls and faxes may well have helped repel these three bills. The Assembly Republican Caucus, to which you were asked to send a copy of your letter to the bill author, reported more than 50 such communications on AB 67 alone. Well done!

Even though these bills should never have been introduced in the Legislature, you may wish to thank the authors for withdrawing them.

***“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.” Galatians 6:9***

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