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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

Plaintiff California Hospital Association ("CHA") brings this 1. complaint pursuant to 28 United States Code ("U.S.C.") § 1331, the Supremacy 4 Clause and 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Shaw v. Delta Air Lines, Inc., 463 U.S. 85, 96 n. 14 5 (1983). This court further may compel Defendant David Maxwell-Jolly, Director of the California Department of Health Care Services (the "Director") to comply with 6 the mandatory provisions of the federal Medicaid law pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1361. 7

Venue lies in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391, in that the 8 2. Director has offices within this judicial district and is thus deemed to reside within 9 this judicial district. 10

INTRODUCTION

The State of California continues to disregard the mandates of federal 3. 13 law when making decisions that impact the rates of reimbursement afforded to 14 health care providers under California's Medicaid program, Medi-Cal. On two 15 separate occasions in 2008, as part of the enactment of the State budget, the 16 17 California Legislature passed statutes that called for flat percentage reductions in the payment rates for various classes of services covered under Medi-Cal. The majority 18 of these payment rate reductions were enjoined by federal courts because they were 19 $\mathbf{20}$ not enacted or implemented in a manner consistent with the federal Medicaid Act, 21 which requires that states consider certain factors and take certain procedural steps 22 before altering the rates paid to health care providers. Indeed, these rate reductions resulted in two, published decisions from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals 23 24 establishing clearly that, to the extent it undertakes the task of setting Medi-Cal 25 payment rates, the Legislature must comply with the mandates of federal law and, if it does not, the offending State statutes will be preempted. 26 27

COMPLAIN

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4. The Legislature's effort to balance California's budget for the 2009 -1 2 2010 fiscal year has resulted in legislation that once again reduces Medi-Cal 3 payment rates solely in the name of financial savings and without adherence to the requirements of the Medicaid Act. Although the form of the most recent rate 4 reductions may differ slightly from the flat percentage reductions that were enjoined 5 6 previously, the process through which the latest limitations were enacted was 7 virtually identical to the process that led to the now enjoined cuts. The State should 8 not be permitted to continue to ignore federal law when setting Medi-Cal payment 9 rates.

5. By this action, an organization representing the interests of California 10 hospitals seeks an injunction to invalidate and stop the implementation of these 11 latest Medi-Cal rate limitations, which went into effect either on July 1 or August 1, 12 13 2009, as they apply to payment rates for multiple categories of hospital services. These new payment limitations will improperly deprive Medi-Cal participating 14 hospitals, including some small and rural facilities, of reimbursement to which they 15 otherwise are lawfully entitled. Moreover, these payment reductions, combined 16 with those that have become before them, are threatening the ability of many 17 18 hospitals to continue to provide certain services and thereby potentially creating gaps in access to such services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries. 19

6. $\mathbf{20}$ The newly enacted payment limitations are illegal because, as it has 21 multiple times before, California failed to fulfill its legal mandate to consider whether the resulting reimbursement rates are consistent with efficiency, economy 22 23 and quality of care, reasonably related to provider costs, and sufficient to enlist enough providers so that Medi-Cal beneficiaries have access to the impacted 24 25services to the extent such services are available to the general public. The State further violated federal law, like it has done before, by enacting the reimbursement 26 27 limitations without the proper public process required for payment rate adjustments.

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7. For these and other reasons, these latest Medi-Cal rate limitations for hospitals violate federal law. The imposition of these rate limitations has caused, and will continue to cause, irreparable harm to California hospitals in the form of improperly reduced payments that cannot be recovered in federal court through an action at law. Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief to prevent the rate limitations from taking effect and, to the extent the limitations 6 already are in operation, to stop them from being applied any further. 7

FEDERAL MEDICAID LAW

10 8. Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1396 et seq., the Medicaid Act, authorizes federal financial support to states for medical assistance to 11 low-income persons who are aged, blind, disabled, or members of families with 12 dependent children. The program is jointly financed by the federal and state 13 14 governments and administered by the states. The states, in accordance with federal law, decide eligible beneficiary groups, types and ranges of services, payment level 15 for services, and administrative and operative procedures. Payment for services is 16 17 made directly by states to the individuals or entities that furnish the services. 42 Code of Federal Regulations ("C.F.R.") § 430.0. 18

In order to receive matching federal financial participation, states must 19 9. agree to comply with the applicable federal Medicaid law and regulations, 42 U.S.C. $\mathbf{20}$ §§ 1396 et seq. Once a state has decided to participate in the Medicaid program, 21 22 compliance with the federal Medicaid law and regulations is mandatory.

10. At the state level, the Medicaid program is administered by a single 23 state agency, which is charged with the responsibility of establishing and complying 24 25 with a state Medicaid plan (the "State Plan") that, in turn, must comply with the provisions of applicable federal Medicaid law. 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(5) and 42 26 C.F.R. §§ 430.10 and 431.10. The State Plan must be submitted to the Secretary of 27 28 the United States Department of Health and Human Services (the "Secretary") for

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approval and must describe the policies and methods to be used to set payment rates
 for each type of service included in the state Medicaid plan. 42 C.F.R. §§ 430.10
 and 447.201(b). Changes to the State Plan may not be implemented by the state
 prior to being approved by the Secretary.

5 11. For hospitals and certain other institutional providers, states must establish rates through a public process that includes: (a) publication of proposed 6 rates, the methodologies underlying the establishment of such rates, and 7 justifications for the rates; (b) a reasonable opportunity for comment on the 8 proposed rates, methodologies and justifications by providers, beneficiaries and 9 their representatives, and other concerned State residents; and (c) publication of the 10final rates, the methodologies underlying the establishment of such rates, and 11 justifications for such final rates. See 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(13)(A) (hereinafter 12 "Section 13(A)"); 42 C.F.R. § 447.205. 13

14 12. Each state's Medicaid plan must "provide such methods and procedures . . . relating to the utilization of, and the payment for, care and services 15 available under the plan which may be necessary ... to assure that payments are 16 17 consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care and are sufficient to enlist enough providers so that care and services are available under the plan at least to 18 the extent that such care and services are available to the general public in the 19 geographic area " 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(30)(A) (hereinafter "Section 30(A)") 20(emphasis added); 42 C.F.R. § 447.204. Section 30(A) has been interpreted by the 21 Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to require state Medicaid agencies to consider 22 provider costs, based on "reasonable cost" studies, when setting Medi-Cal payment 23 24 rates and to preclude states from basing Medicaid rate setting decisions solely on budgetary factors. 25 26

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CALIFORNIA'S MEDI-CAL PROGRAM

13. The State of California has elected to participate in the Medicaid program. California has named its program "Medi-Cal." See Cal. Welf. & Inst.
Code §§ 14000 et seq.; 22 Cal. Code of Regs. §§ 50000 et seq.

5 14. Medi-Cal healthcare payments are disbursed in two ways. The first is a
6 "fee for service" process whereby the Department of Health Care Services (the
7 "Department") determines whether the healthcare services were covered and
8 furnished to an eligible beneficiary, and, if so, pays the service providers directly.
9 Alternatively, the Department administers Medi-Cal through various managed care
10 models operated by public and private entities under contract.

11 15. In 1982, the California Legislature authorized the Department to enter into contracts with selected hospitals to furnish inpatient services in accordance with 12 13 the terms set forth in those contracts. The system is known as the selective provider contracting program ("SPCP"). See Cal. Welf. and Inst. Code § 14081 et seq. The 14 hospitals contracting pursuant to the SPCP are often referred to as "contract 15 hospitals" and generally are paid based on negotiated per diem rates for inpatient 16 17 services furnished by the hospital. Hospitals that do not have SPCP contracts are referred to herein as "noncontract hospitals" and are paid directly by the Department 18 for inpatient services using the payment formula discussed below. 19

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MEDI-CAL PAYMENTS TO HOSPITALS

16. Payments from the Medi-Cal fee for service program to hospitals for
various categories of services are governed by various statutes, regulations, the State
Plan, and in some instances, informal handbooks, manuals or bulletins.

17. Payments for inpatient hospital services to noncontract hospitals are
governed by 22 California Code of Regulations ("C.C.R.") §§ 51545-51556 and
Attachment 4.19-A to the State Plan. Hospitals are reimbursed the lowest of (1)
their reasonable costs determined using Medicare reasonable cost principles, (2) an

all-inclusive rate per discharge based on cumulative annual adjustments to a base
 rate, (3) the 60th percentile rate per discharge of hospitals in the same peer group, or
 (4) customary charges. Hospitals receive interim payments throughout each year
 which are an estimate of the final reimbursement due the hospital. Final
 reimbursement is determined based on a cost report submitted by the hospital after
 the close of its fiscal year.

7 18. Payments for outpatient hospital services are addressed at 22 C.C.R.
8 § 51509. In general, specific rates are established for the use of hospital facilities
9 and hospitals are paid for other services, such as laboratory or radiology services, at
10 the rates that are payable to non-hospital providers. Payments provided in certain
11 hospital outpatient departments are governed by Welfare and Institutions Code §
12 14105.24.

13 19. Payments for services provided by nursing facilities that are part of hospitals (Distinct Part/Nursing Facilities, or "DP/NFs") are governed by 22 C.C.R. 14 § 51511 and Attachment 4.19-D to the State Plan. Reimbursement is the lower of 15 (1) a per diem rate based on a particular hospital's projected costs of providing 16 17 DP/NF services or (2) a statewide per diem rate computed by the Department. 18 Payments for subacute and pediatric subacute services are governed by 22 C.C.R. §§ 19 51511.5 and 51511.6, as well as Attachment 4.19-D to the State Plan. In general, $\mathbf{20}$ such payments are the lower of (1) a per diem rate based on a particular hospital's projected costs of providing subacute services or (2) a statewide per diem rate 21 22 computed by the Department. Under the State Plan, the Department is required to re-evaluate Medi-Cal payment rates for both DP/NF and subacute services on a 23 yearly basis. The Department generally is required to make updates to payment 24 rates each year to account for certain economic conditions in the industry, which 25 reflect an assumption that provider costs will generally increase every year due to, at 26 minimum, inflation. 27

COMPLAINT

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THE AB 5 RATE REDUCTIONS OF 2008

20.On February 16, 2008, the California Legislature enacted Assembly Bill X3 5 ("2008 AB 5") in special session. Section 14 of said bill added Section 14105.19 to the Welfare and Institutions Code. Pursuant to paragraph (b)(1) of 4 5 Welfare and Institutions Code § 14105.19, payments under the Medi-Cal fee for service program for various classes services were reduced by ten percent beginning 6 7 with services provided on or after July 1, 2008.

21. The Legislature also enacted Welfare and Institutions Code § 8 9 14166.245, which reduced payments to noncontract hospitals for inpatient services 10 furnished on or after July 1, 2008, by ten percent. This is accomplished by reducing 11 interim payments for inpatient hospital services furnished by noncontract hospitals 12 on or after July 1, 2008, by ten percent, and by limiting the final reimbursement for each patient day of inpatient hospital services furnished on or after July 1, 2008, to 13 90 percent of the hospital's audited allowable cost per day. 14

15 22. The rate and payment reductions set forth in Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 14105.19(b)(1) and 14166.245 as enacted by 2008 AB 5 are referred to 16 17 herein as "the 2008 AB 5 Rate Reductions."

On April 22, 2008, Independent Living Center of Southern California 18 23. 19 ("ILCSC") and other plaintiffs filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles Superior Court against the Director to challenge the 2008 AB 5 Rate Reductions. The essence of the 20complaint was that the 2008 AB 5 Rate Reductions violated Section 30(A) of the 21 federal Medicaid Act. The State removed this action to federal court. 22

23 24. On June 25, 2008, Judge Christina A. Snyder of the United States 24 District Court for the Central District of California denied ILCSC a preliminary injunction on the grounds that it had not established a likelihood of success on its 25 legal claims. ILCSC immediately appealed the denial of the preliminary injunction 26 to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. 27

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25. By order dated July 16, 2008, the Ninth Circuit reversed the district
 court's denial of the injunction, holding that the Supremacy Clause provides a
 vehicle for prospective enforcement of federal laws such as Section 30(A). On
 September 17, 2008, the Ninth Circuit issued its Opinion on its July 16, 2008 Order.
 Indep. Living Ctr. Of S. Cal. v. Shewry, 543 F.3d 1050 (9th Cir. 2008) [hereinafter
 "ILC I"].

26. Upon remand, the district court on August 18, 2008, issued a 7 preliminary injunction ordering the State to refrain from implementing the 2008 AB 8 9 5 Rate Reductions for certain services. Indep. Living Ctr. of S. Cal. v. Shewry 2008 WL 3891211 (C.D.Cal. 2008). The district court found that ILCSC established a 10 likelihood of success on the merits because the Department did not offer sufficient 11 evidence that it "made the [inquiries required by Section 30(A)] in deciding to enact 12 the ten percent reduction." The district further determined that the 2008 AB 5 Rate 13 Reductions as applied to pharmacies, physicians, dentists and ADHCs had a . 14 likelihood of irreparably harming Medi-Cal beneficiaries by limiting access to the 15 healthcare services provided by these classes of providers. 16

17 27. Both ILCSC and the Director appealed aspects of the district court's
18 preliminary injunction order to the Ninth Circuit. A hearing was held with respect
19 to these appeals on February 18, 2009.

On July 9, 2009, the Ninth Circuit issued a published decision $\mathbf{20}$ 28. regarding the appeals of the district court's injunction of the 2008 AB 5 Rate 21 Reductions. See Indep. Living Ctr. Of S. Cal., Inc. v. Maxwell-Jolly, 572 F.3d 644 22 (9th Cir. 2009) [hereinafter "*ILC IP*"]. The Ninth Circuit affirmed the district court 's 23 determination that ILCSC was likely to prevail on its claim that 2008 AB 5 was not 24 enacted in accordance with, and therefore is preempted by, Section 30(A). The 25 Ninth Circuit also concluded that the district court did not abuse its discretion in 26 determining that ILCSC adequately demonstrated the likelihood that irreparable 27 28 harm would result if the 2008 AB 5 Rate Reductions were not enjoined.

THE AB 1183 RATE REDUCTIONS OF 2008

29. On September 18, 2008, after a protracted budget stalemate, Governor 2 Schwarzenegger signed Assembly Bill 1183 ("AB 1183"), the budget trailer bill for 3 fiscal year 2008-09. AB 1183 amended Welfare and Institutions Code § 14105.19, 4 making most aspects of the 2008 AB 5 Rate Reductions effective only through 5 6 February 29, 2009, including rate cuts for hospital outpatient, subacute and DP/NF services. AB 1183 made the 2008 AB 5 Rate Reductions of Welfare and 7 8 Institutions Code § 14105.19 applicable to small and rural hospitals until October 31, 2008. That meant, beginning on November 1, 2008, "small and rural" hospitals, 9 10 as defined in the California Health and Safety Code, were exempt from the ten percent rate reduction. 11

30. AB 1183 also enacted the following modified rate reductions, subject to
certain exemptions, effective March 1, 2009, by implementing Welfare and
Institutions Code § 14105.191:

15 (a) A five percent rate reduction for Medi-Cal fee-for-services
16 benefits paid to, among other facilities, DP/NFs, rural swing-bed facilities, subacute
17 care units that are, or are parts of, distinct parts of general acute care hospitals, and
18 pediatric subacute care units that are, or are parts of, distinct parts of general acute
19 care hospitals; and

20 (b) A one percent rate reduction for all other Medi-Cal fee-for21 service benefits, including hospital outpatient services.

31. AB 1183 also imposed additional reductions on reimbursement from
the Medi-Cal program to noncontract hospitals for inpatient hospital services by
amending Welfare and Institutions Code § 14166.245 to result in the following
payment rates, effective March 1, 2009:

26 (a) For most noncontract hospitals, interim payments for inpatient
27 hospital services are the lesser of 90% of the interim rate or 95% of an "average
28 regional per diem contract rate." Final reimbursement is limited to the lesser of

90% of the hospital's audited allowable cost per day or 95% of an "average regional
 per diem contract rate."

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(b) "Small and rural hospitals" are exempted from these limitations.

4 (c) Certain hospitals in open health facility planning areas are
5 subject only to the 10% rate reductions and not the "average regional per diem
6 contract rate" limitations.

7 32. The reductions set forth in Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 14105.191
8 and 14166.245, as enacted by AB 1183, are hereinafter referred to as the "AB 1183
9 Rate Reductions."

On January 29, 2009, a coalition of Medi-Cal providers and provider 10 33. organizations, including CHA, filed a complaint in district court against the Director 11 challenging the AB 1183 Rate Reductions as to pharmacy, adult day health care 12 center ("ADHC") and hospital services on the grounds that AB 1183 was not 13 14 enacted in accordance with the requirements of the Medicaid Act, including those set forth in Section 30(A). On February 11, 2009, CHA and other individual 15 hospital plaintiffs filed a motion in the district court seeking preliminary injunction 16 17 of the AB 1183 rate cuts for hospital services. The other, non-hospital plaintiffs filed a separate motion to enjoin the rate reductions as to pharmacy and ADHC 18 19 services.

34. On March 9, 2009 the district court issued orders on both preliminary $\mathbf{20}$ 21 injunction motions concerning the AB 1183 Rate Reductions. The district court 22 concluded, with respect to both motions, that the plaintiffs demonstrated a substantial likelihood of prevailing on their claims that the AB 1183 Rate 23 Reductions conflicted with, and therefore are preempted by, Section 30(A). 24 25 Notwithstanding this finding, the district court declined to enjoin the AB 1183 Rate 26 Reductions for hospital services on the grounds that the hospital plaintiffs had not demonstrated that they would be irreparably harmed by the reduced payment rates 27 28 because they did not show that beneficiary access to hospital services would be

reduced as a result of the rate reductions. In reaching this decision, the district court
 rejected an argument by CHA and the other hospital plaintiffs that hospitals
 necessarily were irreparably harmed by the AB 1183 rate reductions because they
 are precluded by the Eleventh Amendment from obtaining retroactive compensation
 from the State in federal court for any under-reimbursement.

6 35. CHA and the other hospital plaintiffs appealed the district court's order
7 on March 11, 2009. The next day, they filed an emergency motion with the Ninth
8 Circuit seeking a temporary stay of the AB 1183 Rate Reductions for hospitals on
9 the grounds that the district court committed legal error by not finding that hospitals
10 were faced with irreparable harm by virtue of reduced Medi-Cal payment rates.

11 36. The emergency motion was granted in a published decision from the Ninth Circuit. See California Pharmacists Ass'n v. Maxwell-Jolly, 563 F.3d 847 (9th 12 13 Cir. 2009). In Cal. Pharm., the Ninth Circuit concluded that the plaintiffs showed 14 that AB 1183 likely was preempted by Section 30(A) because the statute, and the 15 Medi-Cal rate cuts called for thereby, were enacted without consideration of efficiency, economy, quality of care and impact on beneficiary access to services. 16 Id. at 851. Cal. Pharm. also establishes that, for preliminary injunction purposes, 17 unlawfully reduced Medi-Cal reimbursement constitutes an injury to the providers 18 19 subject to the decreased rates and that such an injury is irreparable when, due to sovereign immunity, the reimbursement differential cannot be recovered in federal 2021 court through a suit for money damages. Id. at 851 - 853.

37. Based on the aforementioned findings, the *Cal. Pharm.* court stayed the
AB 1183 Rate Reductions impacting hospitals. However, the Ninth Circuit's stay
order did not extend to the ten percent reduction for rates paid to non-contract
hospitals for inpatient services because that cut was originally enacted by AB 5 and
not by AB 1183.

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COMPLAINT

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THE AB 5 RATE REDUCTIONS OF 2009

On July 28, 2009, after four extra legislative sessions, Governor 38. Schwarzenegger signed into law Assembly Bill X4 5 ("2009 AB 5"), the budget trailer bill for California fiscal year 2009 – 2010. Although, unlike the last two California budget trailer bills, 2009 AB 5 did not make any flat percentage reductions to Medi-Cal payment rates, the bill enacted or amended multiple statutes in order to limit Medi-Cal reimbursement for several classes of hospital services.

8 39. 2009 AB 5 amended Welfare and Institutions Code § 14105.191, which was originally enacted by AB 1183, to effectively "freeze" the Medi-Cal payment 9 10 rates for, among other things, DP/NF, subacute and pediatric subacute services at 2008 – 2009 levels. Specifically, the statute now provides that, for the designated services, "reimbursement rates . . . for services rendered during the 2009 - 10 rate 12 13 year and each rate year thereafter, shall not exceed the reimbursement rates that were applicable to those classes of providers in the 2008-09 rate year." In effect, the 14 15 amended version of the statute indefinitely suspends the annual payment updates for these classes of services that are otherwise required by the State Plan. 16

40. 2009 AB 5 also amended Welfare and Institutions Code § 14166.245, 17 18 which is the statute that governs reimbursement for hospital inpatient services 19 provided by noncontract hospitals. Through the amendment, the Legislature $\mathbf{20}$ eliminated the exemption for small and rural hospitals from the ten percent 21 reduction originally enacted by 2008 AB 5. Effective July 1, 2009, small and rural hospitals again became subject to the 10 percent reimbursement reduction, but 22 23 remain exempted from application of the "regional average" limitation enacted through AB 1183. 24

2541. The reimbursement limitations described in paragraphs 39 and 40 above and established by the amendments to Welfare and Institutions Code § 26 14105.191 and 14166.245, as enacted by 2009 AB 5, are hereinafter referred to as 27 the "2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations." 28

42. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that 2009 AB 5. 1 2 which included the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations, did not go through the 3 public process that is normally characteristic of legislation and was instead the product of mostly behind-closed-doors budget negotiations. 2009 AB 5 was first 4 introduced as a spot budget trailer bill on July 2, 2009, had no substantive content at 5 the time, and was intended to provide a vehicle to enact budget related items that 6 7 were under negotiation. The substantive provisions of the bill, including the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations, were added to the bill on July 23, 2009. It was 8 passed by both the Senate and Assembly that same day and then forwarded on to the 9 10 Governor for signature the next day, July 24, 2009. The bill was signed into law by the Governor on July 28, 2009. The bill was enacted as urgency legislation to 11 become effective immediately. In enacting 2009 AB 5, both the Senate and 12 Assembly suspended rules that otherwise limit how quickly a bill can be passed 13 14 after amendment.

15 43. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, prior to
16 enacting 2009 AB 5, neither the Legislature nor the Director engaged in any type of
17 public notice and comment process related to the payment rates that would result
18 from the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations.

44. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that, like
the State's failures that prompted the injunctions at issue in *ILC II* and *Cal. Pharm.*,
prior to enacting or implementing 2009 AB 5, no studies or other analyses were
conducted by the Legislature or by the Director to determine whether the Medi-Cal
payment rates resulting from the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations would be
consistent with efficiency, economy and quality of care or reasonably related to the
costs of providing the services affected by the rate reduction.

26 45. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that prior to
27 enacting or implementing 2009 AB 5, no studies or other analyses were conducted
28 by the Legislature or by the Director to determine the impact the 2009 AB 5

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Reimbursement Limitations would have on the ability of Medi-Cal beneficiaries to
 have access to the impacted hospital services to the same extent as the general
 public.

THE ILLEGALITY OF 2009 AB 5

6 46. Defendant has violated, and continues to violate federal Medicaid
7 statutes, federal Medicaid regulations and the State Plan by failing to analyze Medi8 Cal reimbursement rates for the services affected by the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement
9 Limitations in order to ensure that those rates are consistent with efficiency,
10 economy and quality of care, reasonably related to provider costs, and sufficient to
11 ensure that beneficiaries of the Medi-Cal program have access to services to the
12 same extent as the general public.

47. <u>Violation of Federal Statute</u>: The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement
Limitations are invalid and may not lawfully be implemented because they violate
federal Medicaid law, and are therefore preempted by the Supremacy Clause,
because:

17 (a) The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations violate Section
18 30(A) because:

19 (i) Neither the Director nor the Legislature considered the
20 factors of efficiency, economy, quality of care, and access to services prior to
21 enacting the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations;

(ii) Neither the Director nor the Legislature demonstrated a
reasonable connection between the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations and the
efficient and economical provision of quality care, or ensuring access to services,
prior to enacting the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations;

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(iii) Neither the Legislature nor the Director considered the
 costs of providing quality care or demonstrated a reasonable connection between
 Medi-Cal rates as affected by the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations and
 provider costs;

(iv) Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that
the rates resulting from the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations are not
consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care, reasonably related to
provider costs, or sufficient to ensure that Medi-Cal beneficiaries have access to the
impacted hospital services to the same extent as the general population.

10 (b) The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations violate Section
11 13(A) as to the impacted hospital services (including subacute and DP/NF services)
12 because they were not adopted through the public process required by this provision.
13 In addition to a claim of preemption under the Supremacy Clause, the State's failure
14 to comply with Section 13(A) gives rise to a private right of action under 42 U.S.C.
15 § 1983, as violation of the civil rights of CHA's members.

48. <u>Violation of Federal Regulations:</u> The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement
Limitations are invalid and may not lawfully be implemented because they violate
federal Medicaid regulations, and are therefore preempted by the Supremacy Clause,
in that public notice of the reimbursement limitations as to the impacted hospital
services (including subacute and DP/NF services) was not given in accordance with
the terms of 42 C.F.R. § 447.205.

49. <u>Violation of the State Plan:</u> As mentioned above, the Director must
follow the State Plan as a Federal requirement for participation in the Medicaid
program. The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations are invalid and may not
lawfully be implemented as they violate the State Plan, and accordingly, Federal
law, and are therefore preempted by the Supremacy Clause, because they
indefinitely suspend the annual payment update for DP/NF, subacute and pediatric
subacute services otherwise required by the State Plan.

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No State Plan Amendment: The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement 1 50. Limitations are invalid and may not lawfully be implemented because they are 2 3 inconsistent with and violate the State Plan, including, but not limited to, Attachment 4.19-A of the State Plan as to hospital inpatient services and Attachment 4 4.19-D as to DP/NF services. The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations are 5 6 therefore preempted by the Supremacy Clause. The Director may not lawfully implement the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations unless and until he obtains 7 federal approval of the necessary amendments to the State Plan from the federal 8 9 government. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that the Director has not obtained federal approval for the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement 10 Limitations. 11

THE PARTIES

14 51. Defendant DAVID MAXWELL-JOLLY is the Director of the
15 Department of Health Care Services and, as such, has the responsibility to
16 administer the Medi-Cal program consistent with the Medicaid Act. The Director is
17 sued in his official capacity. The Department is the single state agency charged with
18 the administration of California's Medicaid program, known as Medi-Cal. *See*19 California Welf. & Inst. Code §§ 14000 *et seq*. The Director has an office in the
20 County of Los Angeles.

21 52. Plaintiff CHA is a trade association representing the interests of 22 hospitals in the State of California. CHA is incorporated in the State of California 23 with its principal office in Sacramento, California. CHA's member hospitals 24 provide both inpatient and outpatient hospital services. With respect to inpatient services, some of CHA's members have contracts with the Department, while other 25 26 members do not. In addition, many of CHA's members operate special units, such as emergency departments, DP/NFs that provide skilled nursing care, or subacute 27 28 and pediatric subacute units. CHA represents nearly 450 hospitals and health

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systems throughout California, including general acute care hospitals both small and 1 large, children's hospitals, rural hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, academic medical 2 3 centers, county hospitals, investor-owned hospitals, and multi-hospital health systems. These hospitals furnish vital health care services to millions of our states' 4 citizens CHA also represents more than 150 Executive, Associate and Personal 5 members. CHA brings this action on its own behalf and in its representative 6 7 capacity on behalf of its members, many of which are providers under California's Medi-Cal program and will be directly and adversely affected by the challenged rate 8 limitations, and on behalf of its members' patients. 9

CHA'S STANDING AS AN ASSOCIATION

Many of CHA's members are Medi-Cal providers. These Medi-Cal 12 53. providers will suffer a concrete economic injury in the form of reduced payments 13 for services by the unlawful implementation of the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations. 15

CHA, as an association representing the interests of California hospitals 54. 16 that participate in the Medi-Cal program and as party seeking to compel the Director 17 to comply with his public duties as defined by federal law, has a right and an 18 enforceable interest to maintain this action to: (1) enjoin Defendant's continuing 19 20violation of federal Medicaid law; and (2) compel Defendant to comply with the provisions of the applicable federal laws. 21

22 55. Moreover, CHA has a right and an enforceable interest to maintain this action against the Director under the Supremacy Clause of the United States 23 24 Constitution and under the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1983, to enjoin the Director's continuing violation of the federal Medicaid law and to compel the 2526 Director to comply with the provisions of the applicable federal Medicaid law. 27

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56. Under 28 U.S.C. § 2201, CHA is entitled to a declaration of its rights,
 its members' rights, and/or its members' patients' rights under federal Medicaid
 law.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(30)(A)/SUPREMACY CLAUSE)

7 57. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 56,
8 inclusive, as though fully set forth herein.

9 58. The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations violate Section 30(A) of
10 the Medicaid Act because:

(a) Neither the Director nor the Legislature considered the factors of
efficiency, economy, quality of care, and access to services prior to enacting the
2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations;

14 (b) Neither the Director nor the Legislature demonstrated a
15 reasonable connection between the payment rates resulting from 2009 AB 5
16 Reimbursement Limitations and the provision of quality care in an efficient and
17 economic manner, or ensuring access to services, prior to enacting the 2009 AB 5
18 Reimbursement Limitations;

19 (c) Neither the Legislature nor the Director considered the costs of
20 providing quality care or demonstrated that the Medi-Cal payment rates resulting
21 from the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations are reasonably related to provider
22 costs; and

(d) Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that the
rates resulting from the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations are not consistent
with efficiency, economy, and quality of care, nor are they reasonably related to
provider costs, and also are not sufficient to enlist enough providers so that MediCal beneficiaries have access to the impacted hospital services at least to the extent
that such services are available to the general population.

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SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(13)(A)/SUPREMACY CLAUSE/42 U.S.C. § 1983)

Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 56, 59. inclusive, as though fully set forth herein.

6 60. The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations violate Section 13(A) as to the impacted hospital services (including DP/NF and subacute services) because 8 they were not adopted through a public process as required by this provision.

9 61. The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations are thus preempted by the Supremacy Clause of the United States Constitution, art. IV. and violate the civil 10rights of CHA's members, which are enforceable through 42 U.S.C. § 1983. 11

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF 42 C.F.R. § 447.205/SUPREMACY CLAUSE)

Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 56, 15 62. inclusive, as though fully set forth herein. 16

The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations are invalid and may not 17 63. 18 lawfully be implemented because they violate 42 C.F.R. § 447.205 as to the 19 impacted hospital services (including subacute and DP/NF services), and are therefore preempted by the Supremacy Clause, in that public notice of the $\mathbf{20}$ reimbursement limitations was not given in accordance with the terms of 42 C.F.R. 21 § 447.205. 22

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF STATE PLAN/FAILURE TO AMEND STATE PLAN/SUPREMACY CLAUSE)

27 64. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 56, 28 inclusive, as though fully set forth herein.

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The 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations are invalid and may not 65. 1 2 lawfully be implemented as they violate the State Plan, including but not limited to, Attachment 4.19-D as to DP/NF and subacute services, and accordingly, federal 3 law, and are therefore preempted by the Supremacy Clause, because they 4 indefinitely suspend the annual updates to Medi-Cal payment rates for DP/NF, 5 subacute and pediatric subacute services otherwise required by the State Plan. 6 The Director may not lawfully implement the 2009 AB 5 7 66.

8 Reimbursement Limitations unless and until it obtains federal approval of the
9 necessary amendments to the State Plan from the federal government.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION (DECLARATORY RELIEF)

13 67. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 56,
14 inclusive, as though fully set forth herein.

15 68. An actual and justiciable controversy exists between Plaintiff and
16 Director regarding the validity of the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations.
17 Plaintiff, on behalf of its members, contends that the reimbursement limitations are
18 invalid and unlawful in violation of federal statute, federal regulations, and the State
19 Plan, while the Director contends that the reimbursement limitations are valid in all
20 respects.

69. Accordingly, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201, Plaintiff requests this Court
to declare that the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations are invalid, unlawful and
preempted by federal Medicaid law.

24 70. No administrative appeal process or other administrative remedy is
25 available to Plaintiff or its members to challenge the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement
26 Limitations.

COMPLAINT

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71. All of the said injuries are great, immediate, and irreparable, for which
 damages at law are inadequate, and for which Plaintiff, or its members, have no
 plain, adequate or speedy relief at law or otherwise.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as follows:

6 1. For an Order declaring that the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations
7 violate 42 U.S.C. §§ 1396a(a)(30)(A) and 1396a(a)(13), 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, and
8 the California State Plan and are thus invalid and preempted by the Supremacy
9 Clause of the United States Constitution, art. IV;

10 2. For an Order declaring that the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations
11 represent a *de facto* amendment to the State Plan and therefore said rate reductions
12 cannot be imposed without federal approval;

3. For an Order preliminarily and permanently enjoining the Director
from effectuating the 2009 AB 5 Reimbursement Limitations or reducing to any
degree the Medi-Cal rates for services rendered by hospitals that are affected by
Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 14105.191 and 14166.245, as amended by 2009
AB 5; and

18 4. For the costs of suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees incurred by
19 Plaintiffs, as permitted under 42 U.S.C. § 1988 or otherwise, and

By: MMMm

ASSOCIATION

COMPLAINT

5. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

22 DATED: November 23, 2009

HOOPER, LUNDY & BOOKMAN, INC.

Attorneys for CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL

IORDAN B. KEVILLE

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR DISCOVERY

This case has been assigned to District Judge Consuelo B. Marshall and the assigned discovery Magistrate Judge is Margaret A. Nagle.

The case number on all documents filed with the Court should read as follows:

CV09- 8642 CBM (MANx)

Pursuant to General Order 05-07 of the United States District Court for the Central District of California, the Magistrate Judge has been designated to hear discovery related motions.

All discovery related motions should be noticed on the calendar of the Magistrate Judge

NOTICE TO COUNSEL

A copy of this notice must be served with the summons and complaint on all defendants (if a removal action is filed, a copy of this notice must be served on all plaintiffs).

Subsequent documents must be filed at the following location:

[X] Western Division 312 N. Spring St., Rm. G-8 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Southern Division 411 West Fourth St., Rm. 1-053 Santa Ana, CA 92701-4516 L] Eastern Division 3470 Twelfth St., Rm. 134 Riverside, CA 92501

Failure to file at the proper location will result in your documents being returned to you.

Case 2:09-cv-08642-CAS-MAN Document 1 Filed 11/24/09 Page 24 of 26 Page ID #:24

AO 440 (Rev. 02/09) Summons in a Civil Action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Civil Action No.

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, WESTERN DIVISION

CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION,

Plaintiff

٧. DAVID MAXWELL-JOLLY, DIRECTOR OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

Defendant

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

David Maxwell-Jolly, Director Department of Health Care Services State of California 1501 Capitol Avenue Suite 6001 Sacramento, CA 95814

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 20 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) --- or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) --- you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiffs attorney, whose name and address are:

Lloyd A. Bookman, Esq. Jordan B. Keville, Esq. HOOPER, LUNDY & BOOKMAN, INC. 1875 Century Park East Suite 1600 Los Angeles, CA 90067 (310) 551-8103 Tel: Fax: (310) 551-8181 lbookinan@health-law.com jkeville@health-law.com

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

K094 Date:

CLERK OF COURT	
Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk	

vil Action No. 09 08642 Com (MANK)

American LegalNel, Inc. www.FormsWorkflow.con UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

I (a) PLAINTIFFS (Check box if yo CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL AS		DEFENDANTS DAVID MAXWELL-JOLLY, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA					
(b) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address yourself, provide same.) Lloyd A. Bookman, Jordan B. F Century Park East, Suite 1600, Los Angeles, CA 90067; (310)	, ,	Attorneys (If Known)	·			<u>.</u>	
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Ple		SHIP OF PRINCIPAL I X in one box for plaintiff			Only		
🗀 I U.S. Government Plaintiff 🛛 🖟	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citizen of This		PTF DEF	Incorporated or Pr of Business in this		PTF DEF
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Anot	her State		Incorporated and I of Business in Ap		
IV. ORIGIN (Place an X in one box	x only.)	Letaron or Dauly	eer or a rate grin County		Foreign Nation		
IV. ORIGIN (Place an X in one box only.) IV. ORIGIN (Place an X in one box only.)							
V. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: JURY DEMAND: Yes							
VII, NATURE OF SUIT (Place an			in the following modelate m	, moi, +2 0.	0.0.300, 13300(0)(13 JU 19, and are	, .
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Case Number: V09 08642

AFTER COMPLETING THE FRONT SIDE OF FORM CV-71, COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY;

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

VIII(a). IDENTICAL CASES: Has this action been previously filed in this court and dismissed, remanded or closed? $\mathbf{M}' \mathbf{N}_0 \square$ Yes If yes, list case number(s):

VIII(b). RELATED CASES: Have any cases been previously filed in this court that are related to the present case? DNo Yes If yes, list case number(s): 2:08-cv-03315; 2:09-cv-0382; 2:09-cv-00722; 3:08-cv-5173

Civil cases are deemed, related if a previously filed case and the present case:

(Check all boxes that apply) IN A. Arise from the same or closely related transactions, happenings, or events; or

- B. Call for determination of the same or substantially related or similar questions of law and fact; or
- C. For other reasons would entail substantial duplication of labor if heard by different judges; or
- D. Involve the same patent, trademark or copy right, and one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.

IX. VENUE: (When completing the following information, use an additional sheet if necessary.)

(a) List the County in this District; California County outside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named plaintiff resides.
 Check here if the government, its agencies or employees is a named plaintiff. If this box is checked, go to item (b).

County in this District:*	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country		
	CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION - Sucramento County		

(b) List the County in this District; California County outside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named defendant resides.
 Check here if the government, its agencies or employees is a named defendant. If this box is checked, go to item (c).

County in this District:*		California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country		
	DAVID MAXWELL-JOLLY, DIRECTOR OF THE STATE	Offices in Sacramento and Los Angeles Counties		
	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES, STATE OF			
	CALIFORNIA			

(c) List the County in this District; California County outside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH claim arose. Note: In land condemnation cases, use the location of the tract of land involved.

County in this District:* California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign C		
	Each of the claims in the complaint arose, in among other places, Sacramento	
	County	
· · · ·		

* Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo Counties Note: In land condemnation cases, use the location of the tract of land involved

X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (OR PRO PER):

Notice to Connsel/Parties: The CV-71 (IS-44) Civil Cover Sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed but is used by the Clerk of the Court for the purpose of statistics, venue and initiating the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet.)

23 09

Date

Key to Statistical codes relating to Social Security Cases:

Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of Cause of Action			
861	ніа	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))			
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)			
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))			
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))			
864	SSID	All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security Act, as amended.			
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. (g))			

CY-71 (05/08)