

**Office of AIDS, Center for Infectious Diseases,
California Department of Public Health**

2011 Signed Legislation

Governor Brown signed six bills that are HIV-related. All took effective Jan 1, 2012.

HIV Prevention:

- SB 41 (Yee) allows nonprescription sale of syringes (NPSS) by pharmacies in California. The bill eliminates the need for local government and pharmacies to opt into a program in order to sell syringes over the counter, and eliminates the need for county health departments to manage a program. It also raises the number of syringes that an individual may purchase and possess to 30, and allows syringe possession statewide when syringes have been obtained from a physician, pharmacist or authorized syringe exchange program. The provisions of the bill sunset on January 1, 2015.
- AB 604 (Skinner) permits the California Department of Public Health to authorize syringe exchange programs in locations where the conditions exist for the rapid spread of viral hepatitis, HIV or other potentially deadly diseases.
- AB 1382 (Hernandez) allows HIV test counselors who are currently authorized to perform HIV tests waived under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (CLIA) to also perform two additional Food and Drug Administration-approved tests: one for hepatitis C virus (HCV), and another which combines tests for both HIV and HCV. This legislation will enable HIV counseling and testing sites to use the new oral rapid HCV and combination HIV/HCV tests when they become available in 2012.
- SB 422 (Wright) permits physicians to notify local health department Partner Services (PS) staff of an HIV-positive patient and with the patient's written consent provides patient contact information for follow up. This law also allows PS staff to make partner notifications to persons believed to be a spouse, sexual or needle sharing partner without disclosing any identifying information about the HIV-positive person or the physician.

HIV Surveillance:

- SB 946 (Steinberg and Evans) beginning January 1, 2012, OA can make changes to the HIV/AIDS case report form without amending the California Code of Regulations. This law will enable OA to more readily comply with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention HIV/AIDS reporting guidance and facilitate efficient and accurate HIV/AIDS case reporting.
- AB 1088 (Eng) requires OA to add major Asian and Pacific Islander categories to HIV/AIDS reporting data, HIV care data and HIV prevention data reports.