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by R S

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Legal Health Issues Letter

Your Name and address

Date

Name of recipient: Governor, California State

Title: Legal Health Issues Letter

Address of Recipient:

Dear Governor Gavin,

I am concerned with the legal health issue which is in the current healthcare sector. I believe nurses and physicians are among the most vital individuals in the success of individuals' well-being. However, it is saddening that they have to face substantial legal issues in the workplace, which exposes them to the risk of exhaustion. With increased legal issues in healthcare organizations and physicians, they will be forced to make hard decisions concerning the quality of care, resulting in patient safety interference. I know you are working hard to ensure the state obtains the best and affordable healthcare system, but there is a need to consider significant legal challenges that may pull your health projects down. Legal health issues may lead to data breaches, reduced quality of service offered, and create labor and employment challenges.

There is currently a problem for healthcare organizations that do not follow the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and increased data breaches. Many organizations have shifted to electronic data collection and storage due to advancements in technology.

Although it is seen as the easiest and quickest method of storing and retrieving patient information, there have been increased challenges accompanied by it. As you know, patient

information needs to maintain a high level of privacy and only be provided through their consent. The HIPAA act of 1996 was a legal law that developed standards to protect patient data from being disclosed without patient knowledge or consent. Breaches in electronic data have increased significantly despite the HIPAA law being enacted. Also, the interoperability of systems within different healthcare organizations has resulted in an increased violation of patient sensitive data. For that reason, I would like the California State to make their laws and requirements that must be followed to ensure that sensitive patient data are protected from unauthorized access; this will cause patients to trust the healthcare system. Also, I would like the state to develop strict measures such as assessing healthcare organizations' compliance to security requirements at least once every year.

Your state is doing a great job ensuring affordable care to all individuals by allowing several hospitals to operate with tax-exempt by following specific compliance requirements. By following the ¹patient protection and Affordable Care Act requirements, some health organizations can work by receiving the tax-exemption status ¹under section 501(c)(3) regarding internal revenue code. Every organization is granted tax-exempt if it delivered service for public charity to enhance community standard; however, I think more requirements need to be put in place for health organizations to receive tax-exemption. Some of the ways that I thought could help reduce this legal issue include performing community health wants evaluation at a minimum of one time within two years.

As you know, the current healthcare system is experiencing increased age discrimination claims regarding job terminations and appeals to include individuals with disabilities. Therefore, many old and experienced healthcare workers are replaced with young and inexperienced physicians; this makes the old workers feel discriminated against and files lawsuits against healthcare

organizations. California State is lucky for having fewer cases. Still, I think this is an alert to implement formal and written policies concerning employee dismissal at the workplace to avoid more legal actions.

As indicated above, I would like to know your thoughts on the legal health issues stated. I think you are doing a great job in enhancing our state's health status, and thus, to make it better legal health issues need to be addressed soon. Thank you for reading; looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Your Name and title

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