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May 14, 2019

Karen L. Smith, MD, MPH
Director and State Public Health Officer
California Department of Public Health
1615 Capitol Avenue
PO Box 997377, MS 0500
Sacramento, California 95899-7377

Re: AB 1596 (Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials): Hazardous substances: contaminated property: fentanyl cleanup (Support)

Dear Dr. Smith:

The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) voted at the CCLHO Board meeting on April 4, 2019 to take a Support recommendation on AB 1596 (Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials), a bill that would rename the Methamphetamine Contaminated Property Cleanup Act of 2005 the Methamphetamine or Fentanyl Contaminated Property Cleanup Act and would additionally apply all of its provisions to fentanyl contaminated property, including property owner site assessment, remediation, cleanup, and financial liability, civil penalties, and local health officer responsibilities. By imposing additional duties on local health officers, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

CCLHO was established in statute in 1947 to advise the California Department of Health Services (now California Department of Public Health), other departments, boards, commissions, and officials of federal, state and local agencies, the Legislature and other organizations on all matters affecting health. CCLHO membership consists of all legally appointed physician health officers in California's 61 city and county jurisdictions.

Should you have any questions, please contact me by email at roidham@placer.ca.gov or by phone at (530) 745-3121. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Oldham, MD, MSHA
President, California Conference of Local Health Officers