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April 18, 2018

Karen L. Smith, MD, MPH  
Director and State Public Health Officer  
California Department of Public Health  
1615 Capitol Avenue  
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**Re: AB 1976 (Limon): Employment: Lactation Accommodation (Support)**

Dear Dr. Smith:

The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) voted at the CCLHO Board meeting on April 5, 2018 to take a Support recommendation on AB 1976 (Limon), a bill that would require employers to provide lactation accommodation for employees in a location other than a bathroom. This proposed change in law would facilitate the ability of mothers in the workforce to breastfeed their infants in a more sanitary environment.

CCLHO agrees with the bill's author, who states that while "California law does make certain requirements of employers as it relates to the location of a workplace lactation space, it only requires that the space not be a toilet stall. As a result, an employer could choose to make the bathroom a designated space for women to express breast milk, which is neither comfortable nor sanitary." AB 1976 would address this concern.

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 phone at 530-265-7154 or by email at [ken.cutler@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:ken.cutler@co.nevada.ca.us).

Sincerely and on behalf of the CCLHO membership,

*Original signed by Dr. Ken Cutler*

Ken Cutler, MD, MPH  
President, California Conference of Local Health Officers