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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 377 (Garcia): Microenterprise home kitchen operations (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 377 (Garcia), a bill that would modify the conditions for a city, county, or city and county to permit microenterprise home kitchen operations within its jurisdiction. The bill would modify the inspections and food safety standards applicable to microenterprise home kitchen operations. The bill would prohibit an internet food service intermediary or a microenterprise home kitchen operation from using the word "catering" or any variation of that word in a listing or advertisement of a microenterprise home kitchen operation's offer of food for sale. The bill would require a microenterprise home kitchen operation to include specific information, including its permit number, in its advertising.

This bill consists of clean up enforcement language and provides some public health protections to the micro-enterprise home kitchen operations established by 2018's AB 626. Based on the cleanup language and modifications to an already approved bill, CCLHO recommends a support position to AB 377.

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