



1615 Capitol Ave., Suite 73.771
P.O. Box 997377, MS 7003
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

PHONE: 916.440.7594
FAX: 916.440.7595
<http://www.cclho.org>

Leah Northrop, MPA, MAIS
Executive Administrator
Leah.Northrop@cdph.ca.gov

June 17, 2015

Officers

Muntu Davis, MD, MPH
President
Alameda County

Janet Berreman, MD, MPH
President-Elect
City of Berkeley

Bela Matyas, MD, MPH
Treasurer
Solano County

Olivia Kasirye, MD, MSc
Secretary
Sacramento County

Karen Milman, MD, MPH
Legislative Coordinator
Sonoma County

Kenneth Cutler, MD, MPH
Regulations Coordinator
Nevada County

Wilma Wooten, MD, MPH
Past President
San Diego County

Directors-at-Large

Connie Caldwell, MD, MPH
Yolo County

Lou Anne Cummings, MD, MPH
Sutter County

Cameron Kaiser, MD
Riverside County

Mark Lundberg, MD, MPH
Butte County

Edward Moreno, MD, MPH
Monterey County

Maxwell Ohikhuare, MD
San Bernardino County

Matthew Willis, MD, MPH
Marin County

Patrick W. Henning, Jr., Director
California Employment Development Department
722 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

RE: AB 908 (Gomez): Paid Family Leave – Support

Dear Mr. Henning:

The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) Board voted to take a support recommendation for AB 908 (Gomez), a bill that would protect the health and wellness of working families by strengthening California's Paid Family Leave program, and recommends the California Employment Development Department (EDD) also support. Support for this type of legislation demonstrates public health commitment to and action toward addressing the social determinants of health and achieving health equity.

AB 908 would strengthen support for working families by amending the Unemployment Insurance Code to require the family temporary disability insurance program to provide up to 10 weeks of wage replacement benefits, rather than the current six weeks. The bill would further establish a minimum weekly benefit amount of \$250.

This policy change has a potential impact on early childhood health and health inequities by supporting a living wage and family income stability. These types of policies were identified as a top priority for addressing early child health inequities at the Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative's (BARHII) "Health Equity & Early Childhood Policies in California" workshop on March 20, 2015.

In an era of persistent health inequities, it is important that local and state officials actively support policy changes that address underlying determinants of those inequities.

The CCLHO is an organization of all legally appointed physician health officers in California's 61 city and county jurisdictions established in statute in 1947 to consult with, advise, and make recommendations to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), other departments, boards, commissions, and officials

Patrick W. Henning, Jr., Director

Page 2

June 17, 2015

of federal, state, and local government, the Legislature, and any other organization or association on matters affecting health.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions, please contact me at muntu.davis@acgov.org or 510-267-8010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Muntu Davis MD, MPH". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Muntu Davis, MD, MPH

President, California Conference of Local Health Officers

cc: Karen Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer, CDPH