



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

May 5, 2016

Officers

Janet Berreman, MD, MPH
President
City of Berkeley

Kenneth Cutler, MD, MPH
President-Elect
Nevada County

Bela Matyas, MD, MPH
Treasurer
Solano County

Olivia Kasirye, MD, MSc
Secretary
Sacramento County

Karen Milman, MD, MPH
Legislative Coordinator
Sonoma County

Matthew Willis, MD, MPH
Regulations Coordinator
Marin County

Muntu Davis, MD, MPH
Past President
Alameda County

Directors-at-Large

Constance J. Caldwell, MD, MS
Mendocino County

Lou Anne Cummings, MD, MPH
Sutter County

Jeffrey D. Gunzenhauser, MD, MPH
Los Angeles County

Cameron Kaiser, MD
Riverside County

Mark Lundberg, MD, MPH
Butte County

Edward Moreno, MD, MPH
Monterey County

Maxwell Ohikhuare, MD
San Bernardino County

Karen I. Relucio, MD
Napa County

Karen L. Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Public Health Officer
California Department of Public Health
1615 Capitol Avenue, Suite 73.720
PO Box 997377, MS 0500
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

RE: SB 1383 (Lara): Short Lived Climate Pollutants - Support

Dear Dr. Smith:

The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) voted at the CCLHO Semiannual Business meeting on April 13, 2016 to take a Support recommendation on SB 1383 (Lara), a bill that would require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to approve and begin implementation of its draft strategy to reduce emissions of Short Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs), from 2013 levels. The strategy would require a statewide reduction of 40 percent in methane, a 40 percent reduction in hydrofluorocarbon gases, and a 50 percent reduction in anthropogenic black carbon, by 2030.

These reductions would have large potential health co-benefits, and would buy time for the mitigation of CO₂ emissions. The main SLCPs and their sources are: soot (black carbon, PM 2.5), a designated potential carcinogen, from diesel engines, wood-burning stoves and wildfires; methane from landfills, ruminants and natural gas; hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) from solvents, A/C, aerosol products, insulation foams, refrigerants; and ozone.

Recent research estimates that SCLPs are responsible for about 40% of global warming to date. Actions to reduce SLCP emissions could cut the amount of warming that would occur over the next few decades by half. Extensive research links particulate pollution and increased ozone levels to severe and chronic health conditions such as cancer, heart disease, and asthma. This impact is most profound in children. For example, one in eleven children in Los Angeles County suffers from asthma, while for African-American children, the rate is one in four. Asthma is now the leading medical cause of absenteeism in Los Angeles area schools, impacting the ability of children to learn and develop.

This bill is a vital public health measure that will protect residents across the state, particularly in the most disadvantaged communities, from health-damaging air pollution. SB 1383 will also bring additional health benefits and reduce the health impacts that result from climate change.

As you are aware, CCLHO was established in statute in 1947 to advise the California Department of Health Services (now the California Department of Public Health), other departments, boards, and commissions, as well as 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.

Karen L. Smith, MD, MPH
May 5, 2016
Page 2

This position of support for reducing short-lived climate pollutants is consistent with CCLHO's strategic priority of providing scientific expertise on public health matters. In addition, CCLHO's support position is further consistent with the strategic priority to address population-based issues affecting the health of all Californians, particularly issues affecting specific vulnerable populations.

If you have any questions, please contact me at jberreman@ci.berkeley.ca.us or at 510-981-5301. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Dr. Janet Berreman

Janet Berreman, MD, MPH
President, California Conference of Local Health Officers