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California Department of Public Health  
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**Re: SB 18 (Pan): Child's Bill of Rights (Support)**

Dear Dr. Smith:

The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) voted at the CCLHO Board meeting on March 2, 2017 to take a Support recommendation on SB 18 (Pan), a bill that would declare the Legislature's intent to expand and codify the existing Bill of Rights for Children and Youth of California to establish a comprehensive framework that governs the rights of all children and youth.

SB 18 asserts the right of children and youth to live in a safe and healthy environment with access to quality health care and opportunities for optimal development. Moreover, CCLHO supports the development of research-based solutions that help ensure that the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth of California is applied evenly and equitably in the state.

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.

This position of support for a children and youth bill of rights is consistent with CCLHO's strategic priority of taking a leadership role in the practice of public health and policy development.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [Ken.Cutler@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:Ken.Cutler@co.nevada.ca.us) or at 530-265-7154.

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