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#### Re: SB 350 (Galgiani) Incarcerated persons: health records (Support)

Dear Dr. Smith:

The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) voted at the CCLHO Board meeting on April 6, 2017 to take a Support recommendation on SB 350 (Galgiani), a bill that would authorize the disclosure of medical information between a county correctional facility, a county medical facility, a state correctional facility and/or a state hospital in order to ensure the continuity of healthcare for an inmate being transferred between those facilities.

CCLHO recommends a support position on SB 350 as the bill's intent is to promote improved healthcare for inmates by permitting the efficient transfer of medical information for inmates who transfer between medical and correctional facilities. Current law requires a healthcare provider, contractor, or healthcare service plan to first obtain a written authorization, except for under specified conditions, before disclosing medical information. SB 350 would require that all transmissions of medical information comply with corresponding federal and state regulations relating to privacy and security, such as HIPAA, and would ensure that an incarcerated person's electronic medical records would follow them to a new facility, thereby improving care and decreasing duplicative treatment or diagnostic testing.

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 authorizing the disclosure of medical information between corrections facilities is consistent with CCLHO's legislative priority of providing recommendations on population-based issues that affect the health of vulnerable populations.

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,

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