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June 6, 2017

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Lisa Mangat  
Director  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296

**Re: SB 386 (Glazer)/AB 725 (Levine), Smoking Ban on State Parks and Beaches (Support)**

Dear Director Mangat:

The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) voted at the CCLHO Board Meeting on June 1, 2017 to take a Support recommendation on SB 386 (Glazer) and AB 725 (Levine), bills that would prohibit a person from smoking on state beaches or within defined areas of the state park system. This prohibition applies to cigars or cigarettes containing tobacco or any other weed or plant used as an alternative or supplement to tobacco or nicotine, as well as electronic and vapor cigarettes.

These bills would give the California Department of Parks and Recreation Director the authority to designate areas within the state parks that are exempt from this prohibition. In such cases, the bills specify that the Director consider public health and safety implications and potential fire risk. Moreover, they require that the Department of Parks and Recreation develop and post signs at state beaches and areas of the state park system to provide notice of the smoking prohibition. Importantly, the smoking ban enacted by SB 386 and AB 725 would not begin until these signs are posted.

Given the adverse health effects of tobacco use and second-hand smoke exposure, along with the negative environmental impacts of tobacco litter and the risks of wildfires associated with smoking in outdoor areas, CCLHO recommends a support position on SB 386 (Glazer) and AB 725 (Levine). Furthermore, CCLHO recommends that the Department establish a timeline for developing and posting signs, in order to initiate the smoking ban, and emphasize in the signage and other materials that the smoking ban includes cannabis products.

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.

Lisa Mangat  
June 6, 2017  
Page 2

This position of support for SB 386 and AB 725 is consistent with CCLHO's strategic priority of taking a leadership role in the practice of public health and policy development, and its legislative priority of providing recommendations on population-based issues that affect the health of all Californians.

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

cc: Karen L. Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Public Health Officer, California  
Department of Public Health