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April 18, 2018

Jennifer Kent
Director
Department of Health Care Services
1501 Capitol Avenue
PO Box 997413, MS 0000
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Re: AB 2275 (Arambula): Medi-Cal managed care: quality assessment and performance improvement (Support)

Dear Ms. Kent:

The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) voted at the CCLHO Board meeting on April 5, 2018 to take a Support recommendation on AB 2275 (Arambula), a bill that would require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to establish a quality assessment and performance improvement program for all Medi-Cal managed care plans. In addition, AB 2275 would require the managed care plans to meet a minimum performance level (MPL) that improves quality and reduces health disparities. The bill would also establish a public stakeholder process in the planning, development, and ongoing oversight of the program and in the planning of the financial incentive program.

CCLHO appreciates the addition of public health expertise to the stakeholder process (bill amendments on April 9, 2018), and further recommends that future amendments include a requirement to display the data at the most granular level possible, preferably at the city or census tract level, to the extent feasible that still prevents the disclosure of personally identifiable information.

This bill is important as it can help standardize quality improvement efforts across the state. By calling specific attention to health disparities in Medi-Cal, this bill may result in better health outcomes for Medi-Cal members experiencing health inequities and could accelerate efforts to close health outcome gaps.

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, commissions, and 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.

Should you have any questions, please contact me by phone at 530-265-7154 or by email at ken.cutler@co.nevada.ca.us.

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, CDPH