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Director and State Public Health Officer
California Department of Public Health
1615 Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 997377, MS 0500
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Re: AB 251 (Bonta): Health and Care Facilities (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 AB 251 (Bonta), a bill that would extend the sunset until January 1, 2019, thereby requiring clinics to comply with federal certification standards until licensing regulations are developed and implemented.

Currently, clinics that provide certain, specified services are required to comply with prescribed federal certification standards up until the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Department of Developmental Services jointly develop and implement licensing regulations appropriate for an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities. However, these provisions would become inoperative on January 1, 2018. AB 251 would instead extend the sunset of these provisions one year, to January 1, 2019.

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 is consistent with CCLHO's legislative priority of providing recommendations on population-based issues that affect specific, vulnerable populations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 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