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May 17, 2023

## RE: SB 252 - Public retirement systems: fossil fuels: divestment

To Dr. Aragon,

On behalf of the California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO), representing the appointed physician health officers of California's 61 city and county jurisdictions, we would like to express our recommendation to **SUPPORT SB 252.**

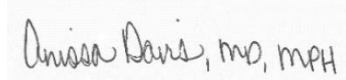
SB 252 would prohibit the Board of the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and the Teachers' Retirement Board of the California State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS) from making any additional or new investments or renewing existing investments of public employee retirement funds in a fossil fuel company, and (2) require CalPERS and STRS to liquidate investments in a fossil fuel company on or before July 1, 2031, as provided. The purpose of this bill is to require the CalPERS and STRS to divest their holding of fossil fuel companies, consistent with their fiduciary responsibilities. This would be one part of the State's broader efforts to decarbonize the California economy and to transition to clean, pollution free energy resources. SB 252 seizes the moment of the worldwide divestment movement and continues the bold and progressive actions that California must take to address climate change. SB 252 ends the contradictory and incongruous policies that position the state as a leader in the fight against climate change, while simultaneously investing billions in the fossil fuel companies that are causing climate change. SB 252 would -

1. SB 252 Aligns with CCLHO Policy Platform in Foundational Area of Environmental Health
2. SB 252, if enacted, would result in a profound divestment, >\$13.4 B, from the Fossil Fuels industries, industries that are the primary cause of climate change leading to escalating, existential threats to health, safety and a livable planet
3. SB 252 would enable California to meet its' historic carbon reduction goals and take meaningful actions to prevent environmental destruction and protect Californians health and well-being.

For these reasons, CCLHO recommends a SUPPORT position for SB 252.

CCLHO was established in statute in 1947 to advise the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anissa Davis, MD, MPH". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light gray rectangular background.

Anissa Davis, MD, MPH  
President, California Conference of Local Health Officers