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April 12, 2024

RE: SB 1132 Public Health Inspections of Detention Facilities (Support)

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 1132**. On April 3, 2024, CCLHO voted to approve the support recommendation.

SB1132 clarifies that city and county health officers have authority to inspect private detention facilities as necessary. While existing law requires health officers to annually investigate health and sanitary conditions in county jails, publicly operated detention facilities, and private work furlough facilities, private for-profit detention facilities represent a legal gray area. Currently, there are 6 private, for-profit detention facilities in California operating under federal contracts (2 in San Bernadino County, 2 in Kern County, 1 in Imperial County, and 1 in San Diego County). SB1132 clarifies that county and city health officers have authority to inspect private detention facilities as deemed necessary.

CCLHO supports this bill for the following reasons –

- Addresses legal gray area of who has authority to inspect private detention facilities in California.
- Provides consistency in approach across similar settings (county jails, publicly operated detention facilities, private detention facilities)
- Supports health promotion and prevention goals of local health officers.

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,

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