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April 4, 2025

#### **RE: AB 993 – Hazardous materials management: Rural CUPA Reimbursement Account (Support)**

Dear CDPH:

The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO), which represents the appointed physician health officers of California's 61 city and county jurisdictions, would like to express our recommendation to **support AB 993**. On April 4, 2025, the CCLHO Board of Directors voted to approve the support recommendation.

Existing law requires the Secretary for Environmental Protection to adopt regulations and implement a unified hazardous waste and hazardous materials management regulatory program. A city or local agency that meets specified requirements is authorized to apply to the Secretary to implement the unified program, and every county is required to apply to the Secretary to be certified to implement the unified program as a Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA). Existing law establishes the Rural CUPA Reimbursement Account in the General Fund and requires the Secretary for Environmental Protection to allocate funds to counties with populations of less than 150,000 persons for which a CUPA has not been certified on or before January 1, 2000, in amounts not to exceed designated percentages of budgeted costs, and not more than \$60,000 in total for all CUPAs in an eligible county.

This bill would make every county with a population of less than 150,000 persons eligible for these funds without regard to the date of certification. The bill would increase the maximum total amount that may be allocated for all CUPAs in a single county from \$60,000 to \$100,000.

CCLHO supports AB 993 because it will make more resources available to smaller jurisdictions to address hazardous materials.

CCLHO was established in statute in 1947 to advise CDPH, other departments, boards, commissions, and officials of federal, state and local agencies, the Legislature, and other organizations on all matters affecting health.

Sincerely,

Aimee Sisson, MD, MPH  
President