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April 12, 2024

## RE: SB 954 Sexual health: contraceptives

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

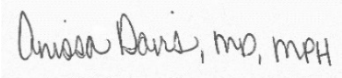
The California Healthy Youth Act, requires school districts, defined to include county boards of education, county superintendents of schools, the California School for the Deaf, the California School for the Blind, and charter schools, to ensure that all pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, receive comprehensive sexual health education and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention education, as specified. This bill would, in order to prevent and reduce unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections, on or before the start of the 2025–26 school year, require each public school, including schools operated by a school district or county office of education, charter schools, and state special schools, to make internal and external condoms available to all pupils in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, free of charge, as provided. The bill would require these public schools to, at the beginning of each school year, inform pupils through existing school communication channels that free condoms are available and where the condoms can be obtained on school grounds. The bill would require a public school to post at least one notice regarding these requirements, as specified. The bill would require this notice to include certain information, including, among other information, information about how to use condoms properly.

CCLHO supports this bill for the following reasons –

- Making condoms available in schools reduces barriers for access.
- Increased access to condoms reduces Sexually Transmitted Infections and pregnancy.
- Increases access to contraceptives for purchases because retailers cannot refuse sale due to age.

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