



Date: May 24, 2023

To: Assembly Member Phil Ting  
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee

From: Michelle Gibbons, Executive Director

Re: May 25 Hearing: Assembly Budget Plan

The County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC), representing local health departments throughout the state, writes to provide input on key budget proposals:

**Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) – SUPPORT IN CONCEPT**

CHEAC supports in concept the Administration’s request for \$9.7 million in Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Funds for fiscal years 2023-24 through 2025-26. While CHEAC appreciates the proposed increase in funding for the CLPPP, local health departments remain concerned that the requested funding is not sufficient to support full implementation and administration of the program.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH), in response to recent California State Auditor findings, made significant adjustments to the CLPPP scope of work (SOW) for 2023-26. These changes include numerous primary prevention activities not previously included in contracts with local health departments, in addition to new administrative activities and tasks. These additional responsibilities for contracted local health departments will require additional staffing capacity and resources beyond the Administration’s requested amount.

California’s local health departments remain committed to protecting children from the harmful effects of lead exposure, and we look forward to continuing to partner with the Legislature and Administration to ensure sufficient funding for the program in future fiscal years.

**Public Health Regional Climate Planning – CONCERNS**

CHEAC expresses concerns with the reversion of \$25 million General Fund for the Climate Change and Health Resilience Planning Grant Program made possible through the 2022 Budget Act. Local health departments prepare for and respond to health effects of climate events, including wildfires, flooding, and extreme heat events.

While we acknowledge the challenging budget situation California is facing, detrimental climate-related impacts on Californians’ health and well-being continue. Planning for improved public health- and community-based preparedness and response functions is an important and timely activity to protect our communities as climate events become more frequent and severe.



Should you have any questions about the above items, please contact CHEAC Executive Director Michelle Gibbons at [mgibbons@cheac.org](mailto:mgibbons@cheac.org) or 916-327-7540. Thank you.

cc: Honorable Members, Assembly Budget Committee  
Joe Stephenshaw, Director, California Department of Finance  
Mark Ghaly, Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency  
Tomás Aragón, Director and State Public Health Officer, California Department of  
Public Health  
Richard Figueroa, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom  
Angela Pontes, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom  
Mary Ader, Office of the Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon  
Christian Griffith, Assembly Budget Committee  
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Joe Shinstock, Assembly Republican Caucus  
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