



February 20, 2026

The Honorable Caroline Menjivar
Chair, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3 on Health & Human Services
1021 O Street, Suite 6630
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: 4265 – California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
Request for ADAP Rebate Funds for Disease Intervention Specialist Workforce
Set for Hearing February 26, 2026 – Sen. Budget & Fiscal Review Sub. No. 3 on HHS**

Dear Senator Menjivar,

The County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC), representing local health departments throughout the state, writes to respectfully request \$18.6 million in AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Rebate Funds in 2026-27 to support Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Workforce in local health departments.

The 2025 Budget Act provided a one-time partial-year investment of ADAP Rebate Funds to sustain local and state disease intervention specialist personnel from the end of the CDC DIS Workforce Development supplemental funding through the end of the 2025-26 fiscal year.

The purpose of the CDPH DIS Workforce Development Grant is to develop, expand, train, and sustain the DIS workforce and address jurisdictional prevention and response needs for sexually transmitted infections (STIs). The funding supports scaling prevention efforts, increasing capacity for disease investigation, ensuring appropriate treatment, linking individuals to care and ongoing case management, monitoring disease trends, and rapidly responding to outbreaks of STIs, HIV, HCV, and mpox or other emerging sexually transmissible diseases.

Without the DIS Workforce Development Grant funds, local health departments will lose this critical workforce supporting STI prevention, investigation, and response efforts in communities across California beyond June 30, 2026. CHEAC respectfully requests that the Legislature provide \$18.6 million in ADAP Rebate Funds for the DIS Workforce Development Grant in 2026-27.

Should you have any questions about our request, please contact us.

Sincerely,

As signed by

Michelle Gibbons
Executive Director
County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC)

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3
Elisa Wynne, Staff Director, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee
Scott Ogus, Deputy Staff Director, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee
Kirk Feely, Fiscal Director, Senate Republican Caucus
Anthony Archie, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Marjorie Swartz, Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Monique Limón
Joe Stephenshaw, Director, California Department of Finance
Kim Johnson, Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency
Erica Pan, Director & State Public Health Officer, California Department of Public Health
Richard Figueroa, Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
Paula Villescaz, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
Will Owens, Senior Fiscal & Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office