



April 22, 2026

The Honorable Dawn Addis
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Health
1021 O Street, Suite 4120
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: 4265 – California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
Request for ADAP Rebate Funds for Disease Intervention Specialist Workforce
Set for Hearing on April 27, 2026 – Asm. Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Health**

Dear Assembly Member Addis,

The undersigned organizations 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. Strengthening the DIS workforce enables local health departments across California to be more resilient and responsive, while also providing critical surge capacity during outbreaks and other public health emergencies.

Without continued DIS Workforce Development Grant funding, local health departments will lose more than 150 disease intervention specialists after June 30, 2026, undermining critical STI, HIV, and HCV prevention, investigation, and response efforts across California and weakening the state's overall public health infrastructure. For these reasons, the undersigned organizations respectfully request 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

As signed by

Kat DeBurgh, MPH
Executive Director
Health Officers Association of California

As signed by

Akanksha Vaidya, MD, MPH
President
California STD/HIV Controllers Association

As signed by

Jonathan Frochtzvajg
Director, Health Justice Policy
San Francisco AIDS Foundation

As signed by

Jake Bradley-Rowe
Chief Executive Officer
Sunburst Projects

As signed by

Scott Suckow
Executive Director
Liver Coalition of San Diego

As signed by

Robert Contreras, MBA
President & CEO
BIENESTAR

As signed by

Eleana Binder
Director of Public Policy and Legislative Research
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cc: Honorable Members, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1
Christian Griffith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Patrick Le, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Joe Shinstock, Fiscal Director, Assembly Republican Caucus
Eric Dietz, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Rosielyn Pulmano, Consultant, Office of Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas
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 (LAO)