



May 19, 2026

The Honorable John Laird
Chair, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8720
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

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

**RE: 4265 – California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
ADAP Rebate Funds for Disease Intervention Specialist Workforce – SUPPORT**

Dear Senators Laird and Menjivar and Assembly Members Gabriel and Addis,

The undersigned organizations express SUPPORT for the Governor’s May Revision proposal to provide \$18.7 million in AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Rebate Funds to support Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Workforce in local health departments in 2026-27.

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.

With this investment, local health departments will be able to support more than 150 disease intervention specialists statewide, sustaining critical STI, HIV, and HCV prevention, investigation, and response efforts across California and strengthening the state’s overall public health infrastructure.

For these reasons, the undersigned organizations respectfully urge your SUPPORT of the proposed \$18.7 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
GLIDE

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee
Honorable Members, Assembly Budget Committee
Elisa Wynne, Staff Director, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee
Scott Ogus, Deputy Staff Director, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee
Christian Griffith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Patrick Le, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Kirk Feely, Fiscal Director, Senate Republican Caucus
Anthony Archie, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Joe Shinstock, Fiscal Director, Assembly Republican Caucus
Eric Dietz, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Marjorie Swartz, Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Monique Limón
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)