



April 10, 2018

The Honorable Jim Wood
Chair, Assembly Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 95814



Re: AB 1964 (Maienschein): Organized camps
As Amended April 3, 2018 – OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED
Set for Hearing April 17, 2018 – Assembly Health Committee

Dear Assembly Member Wood:



The California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Urban Counties of California (UCC), Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), and County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC) regrettably must take an OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED position on AB 1964 authored by Assembly Member Brian Maienschein. AB 1964 would expand the definition of organized camps to include day camps, creating a new mandate on local health departments.



While counties appreciate the intent of AB 1964 to assure that day camps provide a safe environment for children, we do not believe this bill as currently written will fully accomplish this goal. Counties' existing oversight of organized residential camps is already overly broad and requires local health departments to operate beyond their scope of expertise related to health and sanitation. AB 1964 would further exacerbate these issues by adding – according to the proponents – roughly 700 additional day camps statewide under the oversight of local health departments.



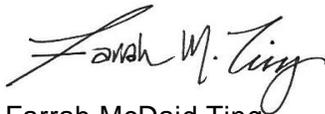
Under AB 1964, the local health department would be the sole oversight body of a day camp and would oversee areas such as building standards and childcare-like safety standards. Whereas a daycare currently has to comply with a myriad of standards set in place to ensure the child's safety and well-being, with the Department of Social Services utilizing their expertise as the oversight entity, day camps would not have the same safeguards in place, even with AB 1964.

Our organizations' proposed amendments seek to limit the oversight of the local health department to their core responsibility and expertise: the health and sanitation aspects of a day camp. Counties would also strongly encourage oversight of day camps by additional

enforcement agencies that can provide the appropriate expertise to assure the safety of children attending a day camp.

It is for these reasons that we oppose AB 1964, and respectfully urge your 'No' vote on the measure.

Sincerely,



Farrah McDaid Ting
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California State Association of
Counties (CSAC)



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cc: The Honorable Brian Maienschein, Member, California State Assembly
Honorable Members, Assembly Health Committee
Paula Villescaz, Consultant, Assembly Health Committee
Peter Anderson, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus