



Officers

Muntu Davis, MD, MPH  
President  
Alameda County

April 24, 2017

Janet Berreman, MD, MPH  
President-Elect  
City of Berkeley

The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Chair  
Assembly Committee on Public Safety  
1020 N Street, Room 111  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Wilma J. Wooten, MD, MPH  
Past President  
San Diego County

**RE: HOAC Supports Assembly Bill 40 (Santiago)**

Nichole Quick, MD, MPH  
Treasurer  
Yuba County

Dear Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer:

Eric G. Handler, MD, MPH  
Secretary  
Orange County

The Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents the physician health officers of California's sixty-one city and county jurisdictions, supports AB 40 (Santiago). This bill would make information from California's prescription drug monitoring program, the Controlled Substance Utilizations Review and Evaluation System (CURES), better available to prescribing healthcare providers in emergency departments.

Directors at Large

Joseph Iser, MD, DrPH, MSc  
Yolo County (retired)

Every year, California's hospitals treat thousands of patients suffering an opioid overdose. Increasing trends in the overuse and misuse of prescription opioids have burdened California's communities, resulting in overcrowded emergency departments and the loss of life. CURES is an effective tool that can be used by healthcare providers to help prevent prescription drug abuse. Integrating CURES with health information technology systems used in emergency departments, AB 40 would allow healthcare providers in emergency medicine to more effectively manage care for patients who have been prescribed opioids.

Bela T. Matyas, MD, MPH  
Solano County

Kenneth Cutler, MD, MPH  
Nevada County

Cameron Kaiser, MD, MPH  
Riverside County

Claudia Jonah, MD  
Kern County

Robert L. Oldham, MD, MSHA  
Placer County

HOAC is dedicated to promoting practices that improve the health of California's residents and believes AB 40 would be a step forward for our state. Should you have any questions regarding our position on this matter, I invite you to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Karen I. Relucio, MD  
Napa County

Sara Cody, MD  
Santa Clara County

Robert Benjamin, MD, MPH  
Alameda County (Retired)

Sincerely,

Kat DeBurgh, MPH  
Executive Director

Staff Members

Kat DeBurgh, MPH  
Executive Director

Dalia Navarro  
Office Manager

cc: The Honorable Miguel Santiago

Brandon Roberts  
Legislative Assistant