



Officers

Kenneth Cutler MD, MPH
President
Nevada County

Robert Oldham, MD, MSHA
President-Elect
Placer County

Muntu Davis, MD, MPH
Past President
Los Angeles County

Claudia Jonah, MD
Treasurer
Kern County (retired)

Eric Handler, MD, MPH
Secretary
Orange County

Directors at Large

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

Bela T. Matyas, MD, MPH
Solano County

Wilma Wooten, MD, MPH
San Diego County

Cameron Kaiser, MD
Riverside County

Karen I. Relucio, MD
Napa County

Sara Cody, MD
Santa Clara County

Robert Benjamin, MD, MPH
City of Berkeley (retired)

Kismet Baldwin, MD
San Joaquin County

Dave Canton, DO, MPH, JD
Merced County

Staff

Kat DeBurgh, MPH
Executive Director

Dalia Navarro
Office Manager

Brandon Roberts
Legislative Assistant

March 12, 2019

The Honorable Robert Rivas
State Capitol, Room 5158
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: HOAC Supports Assembly Bill 1267

Dear Assemblymember Rivas:

The Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents the physician health officers of California's sixty-one city and county jurisdictions, supports your AB 1267. This bill would reduce the number of traffic accidents and fatalities involving young, inexperienced drivers by expanding the maximum age for a provisional driver's license from 18 to 21 years of age.

Many teens wait until they are 18 or older to obtain a driver's license, resulting in a significant number of inexperienced drivers who are able to obtain an unrestricted license without the education and training required by the provisional driver's license program. These novice drivers are much more likely to be involved in an accident than drivers who earned their license by completing the program. Since being implemented, California's provisional driver's license program has greatly reduced teen driving fatalities and has been successful in helping new drivers learn the rules of the road and gain experience that keeps people safe.

Driving is the leading cause of injury and death among teens. By extending the upper age from 18 to 21 years of age for the provisional driver's license program, our state can better ensure that more young drivers have the skills needed to safely operate a vehicle on the road.

HOAC is dedicated to promoting practices that improve the health of California's residents and believes AB 1267 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kat DeBurgh". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Kat DeBurgh, MPH
Executive Director