



Officers

Muntu Davis, MD, MPH  
President  
Alameda County

July 26, 2017

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

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez-Fletcher, Chair  
Assembly Committee on Appropriations  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

RE: **HOAC Supports Senate Bill 250 (Hertberg)**

Nichole Quick, MD, MPH  
Treasurer  
Yuba County

Dear Asseblymember Gonzalez-Fletcher:

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 SB 250 (Hertzberg), the Child Hunger Prevention and Fair Treatment Act. This bill would prevent schools from delaying or denying food to students as punishment for unpaid school meal fees.

Directors at Large

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

Too many of California's children suffer from food insecurity, a problem that adversely limits a child's ability to succeed in school. As households struggle to make ends meet and fall behind, many of California's students are denied a nutritious school lunch and face public embarrassment over the efforts schools can employ to recover unpaid meal fees. SB 250 would eliminate practices that shame students when their households fall behind in paying their meal fees. This bill would also require schools to make nutritious meals available to needy students, even if their meal fees are unpaid. The health officers believe the opportunities a child has to access a nutritious meal should not depend on the economic status of their families.

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 SB 250 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 Bob Hertzberg

Brandon Roberts  
Legislative Assistant