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May 10, 2023

The Honorable Corey Jackson
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 6120
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 437 (Jackson) State government: equity - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Jackson,

The Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents the physician health officers of California's city and county jurisdictions, supports your AB 437, which would require every state agency to ensure that its policies, practices, and allocation of resources are equitable, and would define equitable for this purpose.

There are sixty-one local health jurisdictions in California, each with a unique population and set of challenges, and each striving to create a healthy and equitable environment for those who live, work, and visit there. Additionally, many programs and funding flow through local health departments that identify equity as a goal, but can differ in what that goal means. By standardizing and defining what it means to be equitable, goals across the state will be better unified to serve California's diverse communities.

HOAC is dedicated to promoting practices that improve the health of all Californians. For these reasons, HOAC supports AB 437 and thanks you for introducing this important measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kat DeBurgh'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kat DeBurgh, MPH
Executive Director
Health Officers Association of California