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May 10, 2023

The Honorable Akilah Weber  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 4130  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 85 (Weber) Social determinants of health - SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Weber,

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 85 which would require health plans to cover screenings for social determinants of health.

Health officers protect public health in their communities through disease prevention, emergency preparedness, health education and promotion, regulating environmental hazards, and advocating for programs that promote health equity. AB 85 would help further health equity by addressing the social and economic conditions in which people are born, live, work and age - conditions that have critical implications for health outcomes. These include experiencing racism, discrimination, or violence, and a lack of access to housing, transportation, or nutritious foods, air, or water. In order to address negative health outcomes, providers must first know what is driving these conditions.

HOAC is dedicated to promoting practices that improve the health of all Californians. For these reasons, HOAC supports AB 85 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