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June 2, 2023

The Honorable Joe Patterson
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 4530
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 19 (Patterson) Pupil health: opioid antagonists: health

Dear Assemblymember Patterson,

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 19 which will require each public school to carry two doses of naloxone.

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. Opioid overdoses can happen anywhere, including in schools, and AB 19 will ensure that there is a quick response to an overdose and increase the changes of survival for the affected individual.

HOAC is dedicated to promoting practices that improve the health of all Californians. For these reasons, HOAC supports AB 19 and thanks you for introducing this important measure.

Sincerely,

Kat DeBurgh, MPH
Executive Director
Health Officers Association of California