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February 21, 2025

Senator Akilah Weber Pierson, Chair  
Senate Budget Sub 3  
1020 N Street, Room 502  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Dawn Addis, Chair  
Assembly Budget Sub 1  
1021 O Street, Suite 4120  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Request to Fund California Vaccine Management System (myCAvax)**

Dear Committee Chairs,

On behalf of the Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents the physician health officers of California’s sixty-one city and county jurisdictions, we write today to encourage the legislature to fund The California Vaccine Management System (myCAvax).

MyCAvax is the state’s first direct access software platform to streamline the distribution and provision of vaccines. It was invaluable in supporting a rapid response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the loss of myCAvax would significantly increase workloads for local health departments. In one large jurisdiction, for example, time tracking documents show that myCAvax has saved hundreds of hours of staff time each year. By having health care providers order flu vaccine through myCAvax rather than through health department staff, the health department is currently saving 30 hours at the beginning of the flu season, 30 hours at the end of the flu season, and ten hours every week of the flu season. This is valuable staff time that can instead be routed directly toward critical functions such as perinatal hepatitis B prevention and case management. Vaccine providers have also been able to receive shipments of vaccine product quickly and directly to their facility without the re-distribution hub demand that existed prior to myCAvax. This direct access gets more shots in arms more quickly.

Without myCAvax, local health departments would have to return paper, email, and Excel spreadsheets to keep track of vaccines for children. Worse, if another emergency requires rapid vaccine distribution, California will have to build another system from scratch at great cost. Moreover, the cost would eventually be measured in preventable loss of life.

MyCAvax was originally developed with federal funding. The state must now make sure that investment does not go to waste. HOAC urges the legislature to allocate \$39 million to preserve this critical digital infrastructure. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kat DeBurgh, MPH  
Executive Director  
Health Officers Association of California