



Officers

April 10, 2026

Gail Newel, MD, MPH
President
(emeritus)

The Honorable Jeff Gonzalez
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 4230
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ori Tzvieli, MD
President-Elect
Contra Costa County

Nancy Williams, MD, MPH
Past-President/Treasurer
(emeritus)

RE: AB 634 (Gonzalez, Jeff) Tianeptine – Support & Request Amendment

Aimee Sisson, MD, MPH
Secretary
Yolo County

Dear Assemblymember Gonzalez,

Directors at Large

On behalf of the Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents California’s physician health officers, we are pleased to support AB 634 (Gonzalez, Jeff), which would prohibit the manufacturing, distribution, and sale of tianeptine.

Joseph Iser, MD, DrPH, MSc
(emeritus)

Tianeptine is an unapproved drug that can produce opioid-like effects. It is not approved for any medical use in the United States and is being sold in retail settings and online, often marketed as a dietary supplement. Because dietary supplements generally are not premarket approved, these products reach store shelves before regulators can intervene.

Cameron Kaiser, MD
Solano County

For these reasons, HOAC supports AB 634. To strengthen practical local enforcement and allow prompt removal from store shelves without the need for confirmatory laboratory testing, HOAC requests a clarifying amendment to cover products “marketed as tianeptine” (not only products proven to contain tianeptine). This would help facilitate enforcement based on evidence such as product labeling, packaging, and advertising claims.

Dave Canton, MD, JD
Butte County

We appreciate Assemblymember Gonzalez’ leadership on this important issue.

Rob Oldham, MD, MSHA
Placer County

Sincerely,

Karen Relucio, MD
(emeritus)

Anissa Davis, MD, MPH,
(emeritus)

Isabella Argueta
Director of Legislation
Health Officers Association of California

Eric Sergienko, MD, MPH
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