



**TO ALL CALIFORNIA PHYSICIANS SPECIALIZING IN PREVENTION, PUBLIC HEALTH, OR OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE:**

**WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN, OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP IN, THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE**

**Advantages of Membership:**

There are many reasons to maintain CAPM membership. Members have opportunities to meet and network with our Preventive Medicine colleagues throughout the state, something that we don't often get to do as members of a small and scattered specialty. CAPM provides an avenue for us to act collectively to advance the funding, privileges, and influence that we need to be effective as Preventive Medicine physicians, to speak out for the principles of prevention and public health that we stand for, to promote the specialty of Preventive Medicine in California, and to advocate improvements in public health policy, through legislative action in Sacramento, and by representing our specialty at the California Medical Association (CMA).

As a small specialty society, we need the participation of every specialist in Preventive Medicine, Public Health, and Occupational Medicine. Our dues are very low for a specialty society (even lower for retired members), so to keep going we need everyone's dues, plus extra donations that enable us to support legislation and special projects. For 2014, such special projects will include upgrading our Web site, and **developing and sponsoring a series of summit conference calls uniting the top medical leadership of the state in our fields of prevention and public health, to deal with important issues for our specialty and for public health in California.**

**More than half of our members add extra money along with their dues, and I hope you will be one of those who add some extra generosity.**

**Action through Organized Medicine:**

Our little organization has had a lot of success in shaping the policies of organized medicine in California, each year introducing or helping pass multiple prevention and public health resolutions approved by the California Medical Association. One of the most important successful resolutions of 2013 was introduced by CAPM, to support local public health. This

called for stable sources of funding, and asked the California Department of Public Health to survey the counties to determine deficiencies caused by recession cutbacks and to find solutions for assuring the availability of core public health services in the small rural counties. CCLHO was in strong support and thanked us for our efforts.

**Legislative Advocacy:**

In 2013, we were instrumental in helping pass AB 446 to make HIV testing routine and a "must-offer" test in primary care, and supported the successful SB 402 to require breastfeeding plans in maternity hospitals and centers. We also helped pass AB 999 to make condoms available in prisons, but unfortunately that bill was vetoed; and we supported SB 648 to regulate electronic cigarettes, which was unsuccessful.

In addition, we continue to advise the California Medical Board on the implementation of SB 380, the successful bill that CAPM sponsored in 2011, to require the Board to periodically disseminate information to physicians on nutrition and lifestyle for the prevention and treatment of chronic diseases.

We will be continuing to support several 2-year bills continuing from 2013 through 2014, including AB 640 to require condoms and infection control in the adult film industry, AB 336 to prohibit possession of condoms to be used as evidence in criminal prosecution for prostitution, and AB 609, to make state-funded research available on the Internet. There will undoubtedly be several important new public health bills to work on as well.

Please complete the new member application or the membership renewal form today, and submit it with your dues and additional donation. Thank you for your support.



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