



P.O. Box 8506  
Redlands, CA 92373

August 31, 2014

Hon. Governor Edmund "Jerry" G. Brown, Jr.  
California State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Fax: 916-558-3160

**Re: PLEASE SIGN SB 835 (HILL): PREVENTING ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE**

Dear Governor Brown:

**The Board of Directors of the California Academy of Preventive Medicine (CAPM) has voted to support SB 835.** This bill is an important step to reducing antibiotic resistance through the consumption of meat from animals needlessly treated with medically important antibiotics.

The California Academy of Preventive Medicine is the state medical specialty society for physicians in the field of public health and prevention. It includes physicians who are knowledgeable in the areas of infectious diseases and antibiotic resistance.

We consider the use of antibiotics to promote growth, in animals who do not have infections requiring these drugs, to be a significant public health concern. It has been identified as a major cause of bacteria causing human diseases that are increasingly becoming resistant to antibiotics. Countless lives will be lost if this trend continues. SB 835 will greatly improve the situation by restricting the use of medically important antibiotic to situations in which these medications need to be prescribed by a veterinarian for actual medical conditions such as infections.

In addition, the transfer of these antibiotics from animals to humans may be a contributor to our obesity epidemic. The antibiotics increase weight gain among the farm animals, and when transferred through food to humans, they may do the same. This may be related to suppression of helpful bacteria that normally consume some unneeded calories.

Please sign this major public health measure into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald O. Lyman, M.D." in dark ink.

Donald O. Lyman, MD, President  
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