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Redlands, CA 92373

May 27, 2014

Assembly Member Roger Dickinson  
California State Capitol, Room 2013  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
FAX: 916-319-2107

**RE: SUPPORT FOR ASSEMBLY BILL 1500**

Dear Assembly Member Dickinson:

**The Board of Directors of the California Academy of Preventive Medicine (CAPM) has voted to support your bill, AB 1500.** This bill is an important step to reduce smoking by minors. It will avoid the use of the Internet or direct mailings as loopholes to circumvent California's laws that prohibit the sale of tobacco products to minors through retail establishments.

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 experts about smoking-related illnesses and smoking prevention and cessation.

The control of smoking, especially by minors, is one of the mainstays of public health and preventive medicine. Most smokers have historically started this unhealthy and addicting habit as teenagers. By reducing smoking by minors, we can reduce the entire future generation of smokers, and save thousands of lives in California.

Please assure that our Academy is listed as a supporter, in staff reports for committees and house votes. Any time that the wording of the bill changes sufficiently to require a new letter of support, please let us know.

Sincerely,

California Academy of Preventive Medicine