



P.O. Box 8506  
Redlands, CA 92373

May 27, 2014

Assembly Member Das G. Williams  
California State Capitol, Room 4005  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
FAX: 916-319-2137

**RE: SUPPORT FOR ASSEMBLY BILL 1667**

Dear Assembly Member Williams:

**The Board of Directors of the California Academy of Preventive Medicine (CAPM) has voted to support your bill, AB 1667.** This bill is a logical measure that will bring TB screening practices for school staff, including teachers, into consistency with the recently changed law for TB screening of students.

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 communicable disease control, including tuberculosis. We are pleased to join with the sponsor of this bill, the Health Officers Association of California, in supporting this bill.

Due to the success in control measures for tuberculosis, annual TB testing of all school employees is no longer necessary. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend targeted rather than universal testing. By limiting testing to those whose questionnaires suggest high risk, testing expenses can be saved, and false positive tests in low-risk individuals can be avoided. This bill also changes annual mandatory screening to every four years, saving additional money. There is furthermore no requirement for annual chest x-rays for those who test positive, which will reduce unnecessary radiation exposure. The California Department of Public Health can assure adequate screening by directing the content of the questionnaire.

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,

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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