



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 AB 1311 (HILL): PRESERVE THE USEFULNESS OF ANTIBIOTICS

Dear Governor Brown:

The Board of Directors of the California Academy of Preventive Medicine (CAPM) has voted to support SB 1311. This bill is an important step to reducing antibiotic resistance in general acute care hospitals. Antibiotic stewardship is necessary to preserve the effectiveness of 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 this problem to be a public health emergency.

Hundreds of thousands of hospital-acquired infections occur in the U.S. every year, of which an increasing fraction are resistant to multiple antibiotics. Dr. Tom Frieden, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, advocates antibiotic stewardship programs as a powerful tool for reducing this. By promoting this strategy consistently throughout California, thousands of needless deaths can be prevented over future years.

On May 4, there was an excellent presentation on this problem, explaining antibiotic stewardship, and praising SB 1311, at the Spring Symposium of the Infectious Disease Association of California, delivered by Dr. Kavita Trivedi from Stanford University. The physician leaders of this association said that they strongly support this bill.

Please enact AB 1311 into law through your signature.

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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