



April 17, 2026

The Honorable Sabrina Cervantes
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
1021 O St., #7330
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SUPPORT – SB 895 (Wiener) – California Science and Health Research Bond Act
As Amended on April 6, 2026**

Dear Chair Cervantes:

On behalf of the members of the California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems and the millions of patients they serve, I am writing to express our support of SB 895 (Wiener), which creates the California Foundation for Science and Health Research Council to provide grants and loans for public and private research entities, including the University of California, supporting recent losses in federal funding for critical scientific research advancement. The bill would also authorize a bond for research facility maintenance and operations, if approved by voters.

California's 17 public health care systems, which include county-operated and affiliated facilities and the five University of California health systems, are the core of the state's health care safety net. County public health care systems have a mission and mandate to deliver high-quality care to all, regardless of ability to pay or insurance status, across a comprehensive range of services. Despite representing only 6% of all hospitals statewide, public health care systems provide 35% of all Medi-Cal and uninsured hospital care. They contribute over \$4 billion annually to the Medi-Cal program, in place of the state's share, with many of their payments uniquely tied to quality and performance improvements. Additionally, these systems train a diverse and inclusive workforce, including nearly half of all new doctors in hospitals across the state.

SB 895 is a forward-looking and necessary response to the growing instability of federal research funding. The federal Administration continues to threaten federal grants for medical research by freezing access to public and private institutions, such as the University of California. These cuts have disrupted the medical innovation pipeline of universities and other health entities, delaying the development of new treatments, clinical trials, and emerging therapies that have the potential to save lives. In an era of uncertainty, SB 895 ensures California maintains its leadership in biomedical advancement and public health interventions.

For these reasons, CAPH supports SB 895 (Wiener). If you have any questions regarding our position on this bill, please contact Kelly Brooks-Lindsey, our Sacramento representative, at 916-272-0011. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katherine Rodriguez".

Katie Rodriguez
Interim President & CEO
California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems

CC: The Honorable Scott Wiener
Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee
Ashley Ames, Consultant, Senate Natural Resources and Water
Committee
Todd Moffitt, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus