



March 12, 2024

The Honorable Mia Bonta, Chair
Assembly Committee on Health
1020 N Street, Room 390
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 2132 (Low) - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Bonta,

We are writing in support of Assembly Bill (AB) 2132 (Low) on behalf of the California Tuberculosis Controllers Association (CTCA). CTCA is a professional association of local health department tuberculosis (TB) control program staff, California Department of Public Health TB Control Branch, and public health TB experts working together to advance practice and policies to improve TB care and prevention to eliminate the threat of TB in California.

Tuberculosis is preventable and curable and yet still, in California, one out of every six people diagnosed with TB disease dies within five years of their diagnosis.

This bill aims to elevate TB screening, diagnosis, and treatment in community medical care settings. While TB infects one out of every four people on earth now, according to the World Health Organization, in California TB disproportionately impacts those with a risk for TB. Early detection and treatment of TB infection, before TB disease can develop, will prevent the spread TB in communities and families most impacted by this still deadly, airborne, infectious disease.

Approximately 2 million Californians are infected with TB, and only 20% are aware they have TB infection. Public health departments cannot do the work of early detection and preventive treatment for Californians who need these services alone. Community medical providers need to be enlisted to help provide this essential screening and preventive treatment when indicated to eliminate the threat of TB in California.

We are grateful for the introduction of AB 2132, and we ask for your support for this bill. It will help elevate TB screening and early treatment. It will prevent TB disease and TB deaths in California.

CTCA respectfully requests your '**AYE**' vote on this critical piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

[The Executive Committee](#)
[California TB Controllers Association](#)