

June 30, 2025

The Honorable Buffy Wicks Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee 1021 O Street, Room 8220 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 246 (Grove and Caballero) — SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Bonta:

Educating and training the next generation of health care workers is imperative. For this reason, Senate Bill (SB) 246 is critical legislation, as it will enhance funding for graduate medical education (GME) at district and municipal public hospitals, ensuring that these facilities continue to serve as vital training grounds for the next generation of health care providers while delivering high-quality care to Medi-Cal patients. SB 246 addresses this disparity by establishing a sustainable funding mechanism for GME payments to district and municipal public hospitals and their affiliated government entities — without using state general fund dollars. Instead, the nonfederal share of payments is funded through voluntary intergovernmental transfers from public entities. **That's why the California Hospital Association** (CHA), on behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems, supports SB 246.

District and municipal public hospitals play a crucial role in California's health care safety net, providing essential services to low-income and underserved communities. Despite their significant contributions to medical education and patient care, these hospitals currently do not receive an adequate level of GME financial support.

For these reasons, **CHA requests your "YES" vote on SB 246**.

Sincerely,

Mark Farouk

Vice President, State Advocacy

cc: The Honorable Shannon Grove

The Honorable Members of the Assembly Health Committee Lisa Murawski, Consultant, Assembly Health Committee Justin Boman, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus