



RON CHAPMAN, MD, MPH
Director & State Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

November 28, 2014

Mr. Stanley C. Weisser, R.Ph., President
California State Board of Pharmacy
California Department of Consumer Affairs
1625 North Market Boulevard, Suite N219
Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Mr. Weisser:

POLICY STATEMENT ADOPTED AT OCTOBER 28, 2014 BOARD MEETING

As the Director of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and State Health Officer, I would like to congratulate you and the California State Board of Pharmacy members on the adoption of a policy statement regarding tobacco sales at pharmacies at your October 28, 2014 meeting:

“The California State Board of Pharmacy recognizes that pharmacists are health care providers and pharmacies are in the business of improving customer health; therefore the board recommends that pharmacies and chain stores that include pharmacies eliminate the sale of tobacco, e-cigarettes and tobacco products, as these products are known to cause cancer, heart disease, lung disease and other health problems.”

Your policy statement aligns with CDPH's mission to optimize the health and well-being of the people in California, and Health and Human Services Agency Secretary Dooley's efforts to make California the healthiest state in the nation. It takes all of us to achieve this goal, and CDPH is pleased by the Board's recognition of the role pharmacies and pharmacists have in promoting the health of individuals and their communities.

Earlier this year, CVS was the first pharmacy to announce its plan to stop selling tobacco products and e-cigarettes in its 7,700 retail locations. The actions taken by CVS, and the Board, in this regard are landmark steps. If there are ways in which CDPH can facilitate the Board's recommendation, please contact, April Roeseler, Branch Chief, California Tobacco Control Program, CDPH at (916) 449-5504 or april.roeseler@cdph.ca.gov.

Mr. Weisser
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Thank you for your leadership in moving us closer to being the healthiest state in the nation.

Sincerely,



Ron Chapman, MD, MPH
Director & State Health Officer