



**California Medical Association**  
*Physicians dedicated to the health of Californians*

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April 6, 2009

The Honorable Dave Jones  
Chair, Assembly Health Committee  
State Capitol, Room 6005  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 911 (Lieu)**  
**CMA Position: Support**

Dear Assemblymember Jones,

The California Medical Association (CMA) is pleased to support AB 911 (Lieu), regarding emergency room overcrowding.

This bill would require every licensed general acute care hospital to calculate and record a National Emergency Department Overcrowding Study (NEDOCS) score every 3 hours to assess the crowding condition of its emergency department. Also, this bill requires each of these hospitals to establish a full capacity protocol by January 1, 2011.

CMA supports this bill because it establishes a way to increase knowledge of the overcrowding problems caused by hospital closures and consolidations. CMA also believes that having plans established for when hospitals reach capacity is essential to providing consistent, quality emergency care.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brett Michelin".

Brett Michelin

cc: Members, Assembly Health Committee  
Ashley Meyers, Office of Assemblyman Ted Lieu  
Scott Bain, Assembly Health Committee Consultant  
Almis Udrys, Assembly Republican Caucus Office of Policy Consultant