



MARK B HORTON, MD, MSPH
Director

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



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

April 15, 2008

Julie Low, M.D., President
California Tuberculosis Controllers Association
424 Pendleton Way
Oakland, CA 94621

Dear Dr. Low:

Thank you for your letter dated March 26, 2008 and for your concern about tuberculosis control in California. In response to the State budget situation, the Governor has determined that an across-the-board reduction in all spending categories will be the most effective way to reduce the budget deficit while minimizing the impact on important State services. We recognize that the elimination of the molecular beacon test for drug resistance and the reduction in financial assistance to local health jurisdictions will present challenges to local tuberculosis control programs. The California Department of Public Health is committed to working with local health departments and the California Tuberculosis Controllers Association to protect the health of all Californians during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

for Douglas L. Hatch, MD, MPH, Chief
Division of Communicable Disease Control