

Overview of SB 1379 Legislation

Michael Lipsett, M.D., Chief
Exposure Assessment Section
Environmental Health Investigations Branch
California Department of Public Health

California Environmental Contaminant Biomonitoring Program
Scientific Guidance Panel Meeting

December 17, 2007
Sacramento, California

Background – Prior History

- Biomonitoring bills were considered in the Legislature in 4 consecutive sessions
 - Two failed in the Legislature
 - SB 600 (Ortiz, 2005 session) was vetoed
- SB 1379 (Perata, 2006 Legislative session) signed by Governor Schwarzenegger on Sept 29, 2006

SB 1379: Big Picture

- Establishes the California Environmental Contaminant Biomonitoring Program (CECBP)
- CECBP shall utilize human biological specimens to identify “designated chemicals” in statewide surveys
- Strong emphasis on:
 - science – including integral role of the Scientific Guidance Panel and “scientifically based” surveys
 - community and public participation

CECBP – Major Program Components

- Science
 - Scientific Guidance Panel (SGP)
 - Statewide survey
 - Guidelines and protocols
- Collaboration
 - Public and community participation
 - Interdepartmental linkages
 - U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Communication
 - Results communication to participants
 - Reports and public information

CECBP: Scientific Guidance Panel

- Peer review and recommendations on the design and implementation of the program, including recommendations for priority chemicals.
- More to come in subsequent presentations

CECBP: Guidelines and Protocols

- SB 1379 mandates that the program develop core operational “guidelines and model protocols that address the science and practice of biomonitoring” that include:
 - Study design
 - Subject recruitment
 - Data collection and management
- These shall:
 - Ensure confidentiality and informed consent
 - Communicate findings
 - Emphasize cultural sensitivity
 - Guide other state-funded biomonitoring efforts

CECBP: Public and community participation

- The activities of the panel and program implementation should “provide opportunities for public participation and community capacity building with meaningful stakeholder input.” (105451 (a))
 - CECBP “shall develop a strategy and plan...to establish the framework for integrating public participation.” (105451(b))
 - Use of Cal/EPA’s Environmental Justice Strategy and Action Plan, as appropriate (more later)
- Public participation shall, at a minimum, include stakeholder meetings and workshops
 - Multiple opportunities for public input at this meeting

CECBP – Interdepartmental Linkages

- Establishes CECBP as a collaboration between CDPH and the California Environmental Protection Agency, with CDPH as the lead entity (105441)
 - However, most of the prescriptive bill language references “the program”
 - More on structure in subsequent presentation
- SB 1379 also requires collaboration with related programs (105444(c)):
 - CDPH - Environmental Health Tracking Program
 - OEHHA - Environmental Protection Indicators for California

CECBP: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Universe of chemicals comprise those on the CDC list, as well those added by SGP (105440(b)(6) and 105449(c))
- The program is to incorporate, as appropriate, methods used by the CDC in the federal biomonitoring program (105444(b))
 - CDC to provide technical assistance on sampling design, laboratory technology transfer and training

CECBP: Results Communication to Participants

- “Individual participants may request and shall receive their complete results.” (105443(a))
 - Differs from the CDC program
- Results to participants “shall be subject to” state Institutional Review Board protocols and guidelines
- For results indicating a significant known health risk, experienced program staff “shall consult” and recommend follow-up, as appropriate.

CECBP: Reports and public information

- Reports to the Legislature to be produced biennially, with the first due 1/1/10
 - This report will also be made available to the public
- CDPH and OEHHA are to disseminate findings “in a manner that is understandable to the average person”
- Health and exposure data shall be made available in a summary format by 7/1/10 and at least biennially thereafter

CECBP: Resources

- “Implementation of this chapter shall be contingent on a specific appropriation being provided for this purpose in the annual Budget Act or other measure.” (105453)

SB 1379 Summary

- CECBP enabling legislation is ambitious and complex
- Lays the foundation for a well grounded biomonitoring program
- Implementation will be an iterative process involving critical input from the SGP, the public and other stakeholders