

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MARCH 8, 2016

**VALLEY FEVER - VACCINE RESEARCH**

Valley Fever is an infection that is caused by inhaling certain fungal spores found in the soil and dirt. When inhaled, the spores attack the respiratory system that can cause infection and lead to symptoms that resemble a cold or influenza. The Infectious Diseases Branch of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) reports that Valley Fever, or Coccidioidomycosis, has had a dramatic reemergence in the southwestern United States, particularly California and Arizona, including the northern area of Los Angeles County which encompass the Antelope Valley.

Although many infected individuals exhibit no symptoms or experience mild respiratory illness, Valley Fever can be life-threatening to the immunocompromised and others who are at higher risk to contract Valley Fever, including: infants younger than one year old, adults over 60 years old, African Americans and Filipinos, pregnant women in the later stages of pregnancy, and diabetics.

The CDPH reports that annual rates of Valley Fever increased from 2,399 cases in 2009 to 4,094 cases in 2012, reflecting a 67.7 percent increase.

**SB 115 (Fuller)** would allocate \$1 million in State General Funds to support research for a Valley Fever vaccine.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer and the Sacramento advocates to support SB 115 and the State's efforts to combat the Valley Fever disease.

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**MOTION**

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KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

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