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May 15, 2024

The Honorable Caroline Menjivar  
Chair, Senate Budget Sub #3  
1021 O Street, Suite 6720  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Corey Jackson  
Chair, Assembly Budget Sub #2  
1021 O Street, Suite 6120  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: May Revision Human Services Proposals**

Dear Senator Menjivar and Assembly Member Jackson:

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), I am writing to share our significant concerns with the proposed funding cuts to human services programs in the Governor’s May Revision. Unfortunately, significant new funding reductions impacting all human services programs are proposed on top of those from the January Budget. Collectively, these cuts will have detrimental impacts to the services that vulnerable Californians rely on every day to remain housed, stay out of crisis, and move toward self-sufficiency. During times of economic hardship, vulnerable Californians need these critical services more than ever to prevent falling further into poverty. CSAC opposes these cuts and respectfully requests that the Legislature maintains the core funding that allows counties to successfully administer and provide these safety net services.

Counties administer vital safety net programs on behalf of the state. In order for vulnerable individuals to receive the services that they need, counties need to receive sufficient funding to operate programs, hire staff, and meet required mandates for enrolling individuals and providing access to services. Unfortunately, many of the proposed May Revision cuts will directly hamper the ability of counties to meet those objectives. The new one-time cut to the CalWORKs Single Allocation on top of ongoing cuts will make it more difficult for counties to connect families to supportive services. The elimination of caregiver approval funding within child welfare will lead to longer approval times for relative caregivers. The funding reduction for the Adult Protective Services (APS) Program expansion and elimination of APS training funding will reduce the amount of APS social worker staff who are able to best provide the life-saving services that neglected and abused older adults need. These proposed cuts will have immediate and negative impacts on hiring, retaining, and training county staff and providing them with manageable caseloads to be able to effectively meet the unique and varied needs of the vulnerable residents we serve.

Meeting the full range of needs for vulnerable individuals through human services programs is vital to the delivery and success of these core services. Unfortunately, many of the proposed cuts eliminate or significantly reduce key components of these programs. The cuts to family stabilization, expanded subsidized employment, home visiting, and mental health and substance abuse funding within CalWORKs will reduce access to these vital services and case management. This will make it more difficult for these families to gain job training, learn skills, and work through barriers or crisis. The continued elimination of the Family Urgent Response System (FURS) will give foster youth and families nowhere to turn in times of crisis and lead to further trauma and placement disruptions. The elimination of the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) back-up provider system will exacerbate the ability of recipients to find a caregiver in times

of immediate need. All of these services at risk of losing funding are integrated within the overall programs and vital to achieving the goals the Legislature has set for strengthening and improving the positive outcomes for individuals and families.

CSAC understands the difficult budget situation facing our state. However, we urge you to not balance the budget on the backs of the most vulnerable Californians. California leads the nation in providing a robust range of life-saving social services and counties are proud to administer these programs on behalf of the state. CSAC wants to work with you on identifying ways to prevent these drastic cuts and preserve the state's safety net.

Should you have any questions about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 698-5751 or [jgarrett@counties.org](mailto:jgarrett@counties.org). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Justin Garrett  
Senior Legislative Advocate

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #3  
Honorable Members, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2  
The Honorable Scott Wiener, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
The Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee  
Elizabeth Schmitt, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
Nicole Vazquez, Assembly Budget Committee  
Kirk Feely, Senate Republican Fiscal Office  
Joe Shinstock, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office  
Mareva Brown, Office of the Senate President Pro Tem  
Kelsy Castillo, Office of the Assembly Speaker  
Ginni Bella Navarre, Legislative Analyst's Office  
Marko Mijic, Undersecretary, Health and Human Services Agency  
Kim Johnson, Director, California Department of Social Services  
Kris Cook, Department of Finance  
Angela Pontes, Office of Governor Newsom