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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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March 3, 2017

Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 1 on Health and Human Services
State Capitol, Room 5155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Oppose - In Home Supportive Services Maintenance of Effort Cost Shift

Dear Assemblymember Arambula:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to state our opposition to the Governor's Budget Proposal that shifts \$623 million in In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) costs to counties starting July 1 by eliminating the Coordinated Care Initiative and the county IHSS Maintenance of Effort (MOE). The County's 2017 Legislative Principles specifically opposes actions that create an undue fiscal and operational burden on County departments and supports the maintenance of "safety net" services that protect the most vulnerable in our community.

This cost shift is important to Santa Barbara County due to the following:

- The State has made changes to the IHSS program, including increasing the minimum wage, adding paid sick leave, restoring hours that were cut in 2009, and federal overtime regulations. As it stands now, all of these additional costs will be shifted to counties.
- Counties are not positioned to absorb \$623 million in costs, growing to more than \$1 billion in out years.
- IHSS is a mandated program – costs are dictated by federal/state rules and cannot be controlled by counties.
- The IHSS cost shift will severely erode other health and human services programs as well as impact County General Fund support for key programs such as public safety.

Due to the trigger mechanism in the Coordinated Care Initiative law, this action has already occurred and does not require any legislative approval. To avoid this massive cost shift requires new legislation or a new proposal by the Governor in his May Revision Budget.

If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Dennis Bozanich at 805-568-3403 or dbozanich@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,



Cliff Berg
Governmental Advocates

cc: Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Monique Limon, 37th Assembly District
Members, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 1 on Health and Human Services
Nicole Vazquez, Consultant, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 1 on Health and Human Services
Mary Bellamy, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus

Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Farrah McDaid, California State Association of Counties