



**California Association of Public Authorities
for In-Home Supportive Services**

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May 20, 2008

Honorable Mike Machado
Chair, Senate Banking, Finance & Insurance Committee
State Capitol, Room 407
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2139 (De La Torre)
CAPA Position: Support**

Dear Assemblyman Machado:

The California Association of Public Authorities for In-Home Support Services (CAPA) and its 52 Public Authority members representing 55 counties in California, is writing to support AB 2139 (De La Torre), which would prohibit auto insurance policies from containing exclusions of coverage when an insured is engaged in providing in-home supportive services (IHSS). In addition, the bill would prohibit reclassification of a policy to a higher rate if an insured is engaged in providing in home supportive services.

CAPA is a non-profit association comprised of the IHSS Public Authorities in California created to provide proactive leadership to improve the IHSS program in California.

The IHSS program provides personal care and domestic services to aged, blind or disabled individuals in their own homes. The purpose of the program is to allow these individuals to live safely at home rather than in costly and less desirable out-of-home placement facilities.

We believe this bill is vital to ensure continuation of the critical services that IHSS workers provide to the thousands of elderly and disabled residents of California. The services these workers provide include grocery shopping, picking-up medications and health aids, and providing consumer transportation to medical appointments, as well as a host of other errands that disabled and elderly individuals are not able to do for themselves.

These critical services often require IHSS workers to use their private automobiles. Therefore, we do not believe that these in-home supportive service providers should be penalized by increases in their insurance rates.

Further, if auto insurance rates are increased for IHSS workers, California will likely lose many of these workers as they will no longer be able to afford to provide these services. Therefore, we strongly support AB 2139, so that IHSS workers may continue to provide vital services to the disabled and elderly residents of California.

Sincerely,

Tom Riley
Legislative Advocate

CC: Assemblymember De La Torre
Members, Senate Banking, Finance and Insurance Committee