

June 8, 2010

Senator Denise Ducheny, Chair  
Budget Conference Committee

Assembly Member Bob Blumenfield, Vice Chair  
Budget Conference Committee

Senator Mark Leno, Member  
Budget Conference Committee

Assembly Member Connie Conway  
Budget Conference Committee

Senator Alan Lowenthal, Member  
Budget Conference Committee

Assembly Member Felipe Fuentes  
Budget Conference Committee

Senator Bob Dutton, Member  
Budget Conference Committee

Assembly Member Jim Nielson  
Budget Conference Committee

Senator Bob Huff, Member  
Budget Conference Committee

Assembly Member Nancy Skinner  
Budget Conference Committee

Ana Matosantos, Director  
Department of Finance

Kim Belshé, Secretary  
California Health and Human Services Agency

**RE: In-Home Supportive Services**

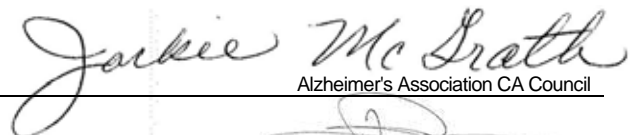
In-Home Supportive Services is a vital program that offers a cost-effective way to provide needed services for seniors and people with disabilities so that they can remain in their own homes. We appreciate the opportunity to discuss the current budget challenges with many of you and are committed to working with you to protect IHSS.

As you know, the Governor's May Revision stated that the administration would, in consultation with stakeholders, develop IHSS budget solutions in time for legislative enactment by July 1 to achieve \$637.1 million in General Fund savings in 2010-11 (increasing to \$750 million in 2011-12 and annually thereafter). Both the Assembly and Senate have rejected the Governor's May Revision proposal and have adopted different approaches to the IHSS budget. The Senate is looking to the Administration's IHSS stakeholder group to achieve at least 10% in General Fund savings and the Assembly is developing its own IHSS Budget Advisory Workgroup to develop a provider fee proposal to generate \$150 million in General Fund savings in FY 10/11, among other activities.

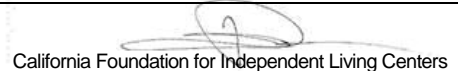
We are writing to ask you to address our concerns about the stakeholder process. Our organizations are willing to participate in a stakeholder process with all the appropriate legislative, budget and Administrative staff. However, we have strong concerns about duplicative stakeholder meetings: 1) Important information is not getting to all parties; 2) Different groups are talking about important issues – but not all together; and 3) the voices of people who actually receive IHSS – the consumers – are absent. We urge the budget conferees and the administration to convene ONE stakeholder group on IHSS budget issues.

Signed,

  
AARP – California

  
Alzheimer's Association CA Council

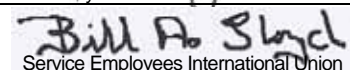
  
California Association of Public Authorities

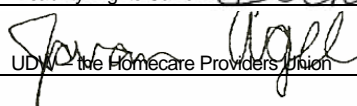
  
California Foundation for Independent Living Centers

  
Congress of California Seniors

  
County Welfare Directors Association

  
Disability Rights California

  
Service Employees International Union

  
UDW – The Homecare Providers Union