



CWDA
Advancing Human Services
for the Welfare of All Californians



February 28, 2018

The Honorable Phil Ting
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
State Capitol, Room 6026
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: In-Home Supportive Services – Wage Supplement Implementation

Dear Assembly Member Ting:

The undersigned associations are in support of the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) clean-up provisions that are included in AB 110. These provisions provide needed clarification for 2017-18 budget legislation (Senate Bill 90, Chapter 25, Statutes of 2017 and Assembly Bill 130, Chapter 251, Statutes of 2017) that implemented the new County IHSS Maintenance of Effort (MOE).

Specifically, this bill includes technical amendments to address implementation of the wage supplement, which is a specified amount that can be negotiated in addition to the IHSS county provider wage. First, it outlines that the wage supplement will be subsequently applied when the state minimum wage equals or exceeds the county provider wage absent the wage supplement amount. This is consistent with our original understanding of how the wage supplement would work. Second, the amendments make clear that a wage supplement can only be added to the highest wage paid in the county since June 30, 2017, with an exception for those agreements submitted prior to January 1, 2018. Taken together, these changes resolve the outstanding issues about how the wage supplement will be implemented. Counties have been awaiting official guidance from the State about how these provisions will work and how to calculate potential county costs for wage and benefit changes and these amendments will provide clarity and allow that vital guidance to move forward.

For the above reasons, our organizations support the IHSS clean-up provisions in AB 110 and respectfully request your “Aye” vote. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Justin Garrett in black ink.

Justin Garrett
California State Association of Counties

Handwritten signature of Frank Mecca in black ink.

Frank Mecca
County Welfare Directors Association

Karen Keeslar
California Association of Public Authorities

Jolena Voorhis
Urban Counties of California

Tracy Rhine
Rural County Representatives of California

cc: Members, Assembly Budget Committee
The Honorable Joaquin Arambula, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1
Nicole Vazquez, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Cyndi Hillery, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office
Gail Gronert, Office of the Assembly Speaker
Jason Sisney, Office of the Assembly Speaker
Will Lightbourne, Director, Department of Social Services
Robert Smith, Department of Social Services
Kristin Shelton, HHS, Department of Finance
Jay Kapoor, HHS, Department of Finance