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May 15, 2024

Honorable Dr. Corey Jackson, Chair Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 1021 O Street, Suite 6120 Sacramento, CA 95814 Honorable Caroline Menjivar, Chair Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Sub. No. 3 1021 O Street, Suite 6720 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: IHSS Back-Up Provider System (BUPS) Funding Elimination - OPPOSE

Dear Assembly Member Jackson and Senator Menjivar:

The California Association of Public Authorities for In Home Supportive Services (CAPA) is writing to express our concern and opposition for the Governor's May Revise elimination of the Back-Up Provider System (BUPS) Funding. The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program provides vital services to over 750,000 older adults and individuals with disabilities to help them remain safely in their own homes by receiving care from family, friends, or qualified caregiver(s) from the Public Authority Registry. The BUPS program provides short term IHSS from back-up providers to recipients because their regular providers are unavailable or because the recipient is transitioning to home-based care and does not yet have an identified provider. Additionally, back-up providers receive a \$2.00 per hour wage differential.

Over the last few years an increased need for back-up providers was recognized and permanently funded by the Administration as a result of IHSS consumers increased need for services when their regular provider was suddenly unavailable due to illness or emergency. While we understand that there is a serious budget deficit, the demand for this service will not go away and Public Authorities will still receive urgent calls for back-up providers. This places a significant strain on the IHSS program and leaves IHSS recipients in a vulnerable and potentially life-threatening condition.

As outlined and projected in the Master Plan on Aging, the demand for qualified caregivers continues to grow as well as the need for back-up providers. This service not only saves lives, but it saves the state from more costly alternatives such as IHSS consumers needing hospitalization or urgent care.

We appreciate the continued support in the proposed FY 24-25 budget for IHSS Public Authority Administrative Funding and ask that you continue to fund the IHSS BUPS program which will ultimately save the state funding.

Sincerely,

Kim Levy Rothschild Executive Director

Kim Pothschild

cc: The Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
The Honorable Scott Wiener, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Honorable Members and Staff, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 2
Honorable Members and Staff, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee 3
Chris Woods, Office of the Senate President Pro Tempore
Mareva Brown, Office of the Senate President Pro Tempore
Jason Sisney, Office of the Speaker of the Assembly
Kelsy Castillo, Office of the Speaker of the Assembly
Elisa Wynne, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee

Christian Griffith, Assembly Budget Committee
Elizabeth Schmitt, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3
Nicole Vazquez, Assembly Committee on Budget Subcommittee No. 2
Kirk Feely, Senate Republican Fiscal Office
Joe Shinstock, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office
Kim Johnson, California Department of Social Services
Richard Figueroa, Office of the Governor
Angela Pontes, Office of the Governor
Kris Cook, Department of Finance
California State Association of Counties
County Welfare Directors Association of California