TRINITY COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Letty Garza, Director #51 INDUSTRIAL PARK WAY P.O. BOX 1470, WEAVERVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96093 PHONE (530) 623-1265 (800) 851-5658 FAX (530) 623-8250

DATE 06/19/2017

Honorable Mike McGuire Chair, Senate Governance and Finance Committee State Capitol Building, Room 408 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re:

Assembly Bill 1250 (Jones-Sawyer). Counties: Contracts for personal services. OPPOSE – As amended May 30, 2017

Dear Senator McGuire:

On behalf of the county of Trinity I am writing to strongly urge you to OPPOSE AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer). AB 1250 is an attack on services for the most vulnerable in Trinity County.

The bill would impose a defacto prohibition on our county's ability to contract with non-profits that are the licensed experts and community based organizations who deliver vital services to our residents and your constituents. The restrictions AB 1250 places on contracting for county services will jeopardize health care, social services, mental health and public safety services across your District.

For example in Trinity County we contract for a number of critical services that we either do not have the expertise or the internal staffing capabilities or resources to provide in the most effective manner for our communities. Our vital partner, Human Response Network (HRN) provides court-ordered visitation services, including transportation of clients, and supervising or monitoring visits between Trinity County dependent youth and their siblings/parents/family members. They also provide in-home parenting education to families who are considered at-risk for intervention by Child Welfare Services, as well as Transitional Housing case management for youth transitioning from placements in foster homes into independent living situations. In the past these programs combined provided services to over 400 recipients in the period of one year (2014/2015). In addition HRN provides Transitional Housing case management services, Domestic Violence services, child care and housing support for our most vulnerable populations.

Ready For Life foster family agency provides potential Intensive treatment foster care homes for Trinity County dependent children. Outside of the contract for intensive treatment homes, Ready For Life also provides traditional foster family homes. Trinity County has worked closely and extensively with Ready For Life for a number of years. Currently, 6 children are placed in Ready for Life traditional foster family homes.

Visions of the Cross provides substance abuse treatment and sober living services to adult clients. Visions of the Cross welcomes young children to live with parents at the facility. In the past

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year, 5 adults have received services from Visions of the Cross, impacting 3 families and a total of 8 Trinity County dependents.

Progress House provides substance abuse treatment and sober living services to adult clients. Progress House welcomes young children to live with parents at the facility. In the past year, we have not had any clients utilize their services, however in the previous year 1 adult and 2 children received services. Finally over 60 recipients in the Adult Services program stand to benefit from mobile dental services annually.

By restricting our county's ability to provide services in the most cost-effective manner, AB 1250 will also increase costs for taxpayers and reduce funding available for other local services. For many vital programs, it will not be a matter of who will provide the service but if they can even be offered at all.

Please protect services for the most vulnerable. Trinity County strongly urges you to vote no on AB 1250.

Sincerely,

Letty Garza, Director

Trinity County Health and Human Services

cc:

Honorable Members, Senate Governance and Finance Committee

Honorable Jim Wood, California State Assembly

Honorable Reggie Jones-Sawyer, California State Assembly Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, California State Assembly

California State Association of Counties