

In-Home Supportive Services

Background

In 2017, significant changes were enacted to the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program through budget trailer bills (SB 90 and AB 130, Statutes of 2017). These changes resulted from the Governor's proposal to shift nearly \$600 million in IHSS costs to counties and CSAC's subsequent negotiations to mitigate this cost shift to the greatest extent possible. Since June, CSAC has worked in partnership with counties and the Administration to implement many of the key provisions, including establishing the new County Maintenance of Effort (MOE), distributing state General Fund contributions to offset IHSS costs, and redirecting realignment revenue from other accounts to Social Services to further offset costs.

CSAC will focus on two key priorities related to IHSS in 2018. First, CSAC will continue to push to ensure the changes are implemented in a way that puts counties in the best position to successfully manage the increased IHSS costs. Counties need flexibility and resources for these IHSS changes and CSAC remains committed to advocating for these needs during our active implementation role.

Second, CSAC will dedicate significant time and resources on the reopener provision, which requires the Administration to consult with CSAC in the development of the 2019-20 budget and submit a report by January 2019 to examine this new IHSS funding structure. That report must include recommendations related to if there is adequate 1991 realignment funding for programs that were realigned, how IHSS costs are growing compared to the inflation factor, the impact of the redirected revenue on funding for other realigned programs, and the status of collective bargaining for IHSS. While it is likely that the increased IHSS costs are workable for counties in the first two years, these costs will become unsustainable beginning in 2019-20. This will lead to significant impacts for other county priorities and programs, including health and mental health realignment programs. Counties need a long-term solution and this reopener provision provides the opportunity to revisit this structure. CSAC will advocate for a sustainable structure that provides the resources and tools for counties to successfully carry-out IHSS and other realigned programs.

Talking Points

- Counties remain committed to partnering with the Administration and the Legislature to ensure counties can successfully deliver realigned services on behalf of the state.
- Counties critically need a long-term solution for IHSS funding as the increased IHSS costs will become unsustainable for counties and impact other county services.
- CSAC will advocate for the required reopener report to contain recommendations that would ensure the sustainability and stability of IHSS and other critical county programs.

