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

SUBJECT: OPPOSE Assembly Bill 1250 (Jones-Sawyer). Counties: Contracts for personal service, as amended May 30, 2017

Dear Senator McGuire:

The County of Alameda Board of Supervisors strongly urges you to OPPOSE AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer).

AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) will negatively impact the County’s ability to contract for services with community-based providers and local businesses, require additional staffing, impose additional costs and among other adverse impacts, create barriers for local community-based organizations and small, local, emerging businesses from participating in the County’s procurement programs.

The restrictions and additional administrative, fiscal, audit, public disclosure of non-profit and private employee wages, and other reporting requirements will negatively impact long-established partnerships with community organizations and local businesses that provide direct and support services to the County’s most vulnerable populations.

Alameda County contracts for a broad array of services for its vulnerable residents, to conduct the business of the County, and to meet its mandated service requirements and legal obligations. In so doing, the County has established a well-regarded track record of collaboration and partnerships with local non-profit community organizations and service providers with a commitment to small, local emerging businesses.

AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) imposes significant new restrictions, costs and bureaucratic requirements designed to prevent counties from contracting with community-based non-profit organizations, licensed professionals, and other service providers. As proposed, AB 1250 will require additional staff resources and impose conditions and costs that will restrict counties’ ability to provide services in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.
The proposed restrictions to contracting for services will likely result in decreased quality, quantity, and access to services for our most vulnerable communities. Non-profit community partners are vital to the County’s service delivery network, and the County currently contracts for in excess of $500 million with over 300 community providers. Restricting the County’s ability to contract as proposed will affect our ability to provide cost effective, efficient and relevant health care, social services, public safety, and countywide support services.

Please help us protect services for the most vulnerable and our local, small, emerging businesses. Alameda County strongly urges you to vote NO on AB 1250.

Sincerely,

Wilma Chan
Supervisor, District 3
President, Board of Supervisors

Keith Carson
Supervisor, District 5
Chair, Personnel, Administration, and Legislation Committee

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
Honorable Steve Glazer, District 7, California State Senate
Honorable Nancy Skinner, District 9, California State Senate
Honorable Bob Wieckowski, District 10, California State Senate
Honorable Catharine Baker, District 16, California State Assembly
Honorable Rob Bonta, District 18, California State Assembly
Honorable Kansen Chu, District 25, California State Assembly
Honorable Tony Thurmond District 15, California State Assembly
Honorable Bill Quirk, District 20, California State Assembly
Honorable Reggie Jones-Sawyer, California State Assembly
Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, California State Assembly
California State Association of Counties