



CWDA

Advancing Human Services
for the Welfare of All Californians

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June 28, 2017

The Honorable Mike McGuire
Chair, Senate Governance & Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 5061
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator McGuire:

**RE: AB 1250 (JONES-SAWYER) AS AMENDED
JUNE 21, 2017 —OPPOSE**

The County Welfare Directors Association of California (CWDA) has a position of OPPOSE on AB 1250 by Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer, which would place a number of new requirements on county governments prior to entering into, extending or renewing certain service contracts with non-governmental organizations.

Under current law, many of the core activities performed by county governments on behalf of the state, including eligibility determinations for programs such as CalFresh, CalWORKs and Medi-Cal and case management for child welfare services, cannot be contracted to a private entity and must be performed by county staff. Other activities may be contracted out, and counties choose whether to do so depending on the service or activity and taking local circumstances, needs, and staffing availability into consideration. Additionally, some counties have local ordinances or charter requirements that must be followed prior to contracting out a particular activity.

AB 1250 would affect “personal services” contracts, undefined in the bill, but potentially including activities in the human services arena that CWDA’s member agencies administer on the state’s behalf. The requirements include prescriptive cost-benefit analysis prior to entering into, extending or renewing contracts, as well as information disclosure and audit requirements for contractors. The bill provides exceptions to these requirements, but the process for these exceptions to be exercised (and potentially challenged) is not clear, leaving considerable uncertainty for counties regarding how the bill would be interpreted, for example, in a court of law.

We are concerned the bill is overly broad and would unnecessarily restrict counties’ ability to manage the programs and services we provide in the most effective and efficient way. We value our partnership with labor and work closely with the labor organizations representing our workforce on the vast majority of issues that come before the Legislature. Unfortunately, on this legislation, our viewpoints differ and we regretfully must oppose the bill.

For these reasons, CWDA has a position of OPPOSE on AB 1250. Thank you for your consideration of our position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cathy Senderling-McDonald". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cathy Senderling-McDonald | Deputy Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Reggie Jones-Sawyer
Honorable Members, Senate Governance & Finance Committee
Jimmy MacDonald, Consultant, Senate Governance & Finance Committee
Ryan Eisberg, Senate Republican Consultant
Donna Campbell, Office of Governor Jerry Brown
Robert Smith, California Department of Social Services
Dorothy Johnson, California State Association of Counties
County Caucus