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May 26, 2017

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Marin County Civic Center
3501 Civic Center Drive
Suite 329
San Rafael, CA 94903
415 473 7331 T
415 473 3645 F
415 473 6172 TTY
www.marincounty.org/bos

The Honorable Reggie Jones-Sawyer
Member, California State Assembly
California State Capitol, Room 2117
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: AB 1250 Counties and cities: contracts for personal services – OPPOSE

Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer,

On behalf of the Marin County Board of Supervisors, I write to join the California State Association of Counties to respectfully express our opposition to AB 1250. AB 1250 would provide that a city or county agency may only contract for personal services currently or customarily performed by county employees when all of the following conditions apply: The Board of Supervisors clearly demonstrates that the proposed contract will result in actual overall cost savings to the county for the duration of the contract; proposals to contract out work shall not be approved solely on the basis that savings will result from lower contractor pay rates or benefits; the contract does not cause the displacement of county employees; the contract does not cause vacant positions in county employment to remain unfilled; and other specified conditions.

While AB 1250 provides some exceptions for emergency situations and technical expertise, we believe that allowing counties to use the least-costly methods of providing services while meeting operational needs in all circumstances is in the best interest of the counties, residents and service recipients. Adding additional hurdles will increase costs and reduce opportunities to meet service delivery needs in the most cost effective manner.

AB 1250 also requires counties to require the contractor to disclose information as part of their application that includes a description of all charges, claims or complaints filed against the contractors within the last 10 years, the total compensation the contractor provides to workers under the contract, and the total compensation of the five highest compensated officers. We believe this is a significant overreach and could provide a disincentive for contractors to apply.

For all of these reasons, the Marin County Board of Supervisors opposes AB 1250.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Arnold, President
Marin County Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Mike McGuire
Assembly Member Marc Levine