

COUNTY OF SONOMA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

575 ADMINISTRATION DRIVE, RM. 100A
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95403

(707) 565-2241
FAX (707) 565-3778



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

SHIRLEE ZANE
CHAIR

JAMES GORE
VICE CHAIR

SUSAN GORIN

DAVID RABBITT

LYNDA HOPKINS

June 16, 2017

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

RE: AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) – Oppose

Dear Senator McGuire,

On behalf of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, I am writing in opposition to AB 1250, which would impose a de facto prohibition on counties' ability to partner with local community based organizations that are vital to the delivery of services to our residents and your constituents. This bill has been referred to your Committee on Governance and Finance.

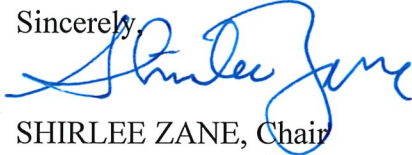
The restrictions AB 1250 places on contracting for county services will jeopardize health care, social services, mental health, and public safety services across your district. Sonoma County contracts for a number of critical services that we either do not have the expertise or internal staffing capability to provide in the most effective manner for our communities. We rely on local partners and their existing community relationships and infrastructure that we leverage in order to best serve all corners of our county.

For example, our Department of Health Services works closely with community partners throughout our county to provide much-needed dental health screenings, improve physical education in our schools, training community members to be health advocates in their neighborhoods, and assisting with mental health services for the homeless. These services could be jeopardized if AB 1250 is enacted.

Another department that would be significantly impacted is our Human Services Department. The biggest potential impact for Human Services would be related to child welfare. Our Family, Youth & Children's division spends approximately \$500,000 annually on contracts for therapeutic services and psychiatric evaluations for children. Our Adult & Aging division also contracts for these services for seniors. The Sonoma County Youth Ecology Corps program, which is a jobs, workforce training, and ecosystem education program aimed at employing youth and young adults while teaching them about environmental stewardship, could also be negatively impacted, costing youth in our community an invaluable opportunity to develop job skills.

It is a priority of Sonoma County's legislative platform to support the county's community health care, social services, mental health, and public safety services. By restricting our county's ability to provide services in the most cost-effective and efficient manner, AB 1250 will also increase costs for taxpayers and reduce funding available for other local services. This could result in significant cuts to program budgets, or elimination of some programs altogether. For these reasons, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors requests your "nay" vote when AB 1250 is heard in your committee.

Sincerely,



SHIRLEE ZANE, Chair
Sonoma County Board of Supervisors

CC: Sonoma County Board of Supervisors
The Honorable Bill Dodd, California State Senate
The Honorable Jim Wood, California State Assembly
The Honorable Marc Levine, California State Assembly
The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, California State Assembly
California State Association of Counties
Paul Yoder & Karen Lange, Shaw/Yoder/Antwih, Inc.