



June 16, 2017

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

RE: AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) OPPOSE

Dear Senator McGuire:

On behalf of the 135 private nonprofit member organizations of the California Alliance of Child and Family Services, I write to respectfully request your opposition to AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer).

There is no legitimate public policy concern that AB 1250 seeks to address, period. The bill would simply restrict counties' abilities to contract for the efficient, effective delivery of human services, resulting in decreased access to services – or even the outright elimination of some services – for the most vulnerable in our population.

The members of the California Alliance provide expert care, support, services and treatment annually to tens of thousands of vulnerable children, youth and their families across the state. Our members work in partnership with county child welfare, mental health and juvenile probation agencies. Alliance member organizations provide local services that counties either do not have the expertise or internal capacity to provide, including family resource centers, intensive treatment foster care, residential treatment, intensive home-based services, family preservation services, special needs adoption, wraparound, intensive school-based mental health services, mental health crisis services, therapeutic behavioral services, and so on. Our member agencies have been on the cutting edge of local human service innovation and reform.

We absolutely believe that private/public partnerships are critical to providing high-quality human services at the local level and to conserving taxpayer resources. But, AB 1250 would impose significant new burdens on counties and community based organizations for the transparently sole purpose of discouraging public/private partnerships. Counties would be required to meet impossibly high criteria to demonstrate prior to contracting for a service that they in no conceivable way are jeopardizing any job held by any county employee. The bill would require nonprofit contractors to conduct extensive audits at their own expense and to disclose personal information including the names and hourly pay of their employees, subjecting that information to the California Public Records Act. This raises significant privacy concerns for our member organizations and their employees, and would have a chilling effect on our members' abilities to recruit and retain qualified staff.

The bottom line is that AB 1250 would impose a *de facto* prohibition on counties' abilities to contract with non-profit organizations, including our member agencies, thus jeopardizing the delivery of vital services that many Californians depend on. I reiterate: there is no legitimate public policy problem that AB 1250 seeks to solve; yet, its passage would have a devastating effect on local human services.

We respectfully request that you oppose 1250 when it comes before you in Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carroll', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Carroll Schroeder, MS
Executive Director

Cc: Sen. Janet Nguyen, Vice Chair
Sen. Jim Beall
Sen. Ed Hernandez
Sen. Robert Hertzberg
Sen. Ricardo Lara
Sen. John Moorlach