

UNITED ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

2035 Hurley Way, Suite 290, Sacramento, CA 95825-3221 (916) 643-1530 Direct (916) 643-1592 Fax (877) ASK-UACF (275-8223) www.uacf4hope.org

June 22, 2017

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

Dear Senator McGuire:

On behalf of United Advocates for Children and Families (UACF) I write to respectfully request your opposition to AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer). UACF serves parents and children involved in the behavioral health, child welfare, juvenile justice and special education systems. We have a membership of 300 Parent Partners across the state in our Parent Partner Coalition. These Parent Partners mostly serve families in community based outpatient agencies and clinics throughout the state. We believe private/public partnerships are essential to provide high-quality local services as a result save taxpayer money and resources.

AB 1250 would impose a de facto prohibition on counties' abilities to contract with non-profits, like ours, as well as other business and economic development organizations. In doing so, AB 1250 jeopardizes the delivery of vital services that many Californians depend on, including health and social services, public safety and other core functions of counties.

We provide local services that a county either does not have the expertise or internal capability to provide directly. We have a Parent Partner Program in Alameda County, we partner with Los Angeles County and Riverside County to provide training to staff regarding providing holistic treatment, and provide parents system navigation.

AB 1250 would impose significant new burdens on community based organizations and private sector contractors for the sole purpose of discouraging public/private partnerships. It requires contractors to conduct (at our own expense) extensive audits and requires us to disclose personal information, including the names and hourly rates of our employees and any subcontractors and the compensation rates for those workers —subjecting that information to

the California Public Records Act. This raises significant privacy concerns for organizations like ours and our employees.

Restricting counties' abilities to contract for the expertise and most efficient delivery of services could result in decreased access to services or even the elimination of some services outright for our most vulnerable.

There is no legitimate policy problem that AB 1250 seeks to address. We respectfully request that you oppose 1250 when it comes before you in Committee.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Oscar Wright

CEO, UACF

Cc: Members, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer, California State Assembly