



**County Administrative Office**  
**Governmental & Legislative Affairs**

**Josh Candelaria**  
Director

April 3, 2019

The Honorable Dr. Richard Pan  
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Legislative Analyst's Office Analysis of Funding for Local Child Support Agencies**

Dear Chairman Pan:

The County of San Bernardino strongly supports Governor Newsom's proposal to increase Local Child Support Agency (LCSA) funding by \$56 million (\$19.1 million State General Funds, matched by \$36.9 million in federal funds) and opposes the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) recommendation to withhold action on the current proposal.

The proposed \$56 million funding increase will happen primarily through the implementation of a long-needed budgeting methodology which was carefully created through a collaborative effort of the Department of Child Support Services, the Child Support Director's Association and based on studies by other departments under the California Health and Human Services Agency. The budgeting model is designed to provide the ability of those agencies to assist families in deep poverty.

Local child support is a critical aspect of the state's efforts to fight child poverty and aligns very well with the Administration's stated policy objectives. The additional proposed local funding would allow LCSAs to support families in providing food, shelter, clothing and other basic living expenses of children.

The LAO has suggested that local funding be delayed until after the state has updated its program to align with the federal child support Final Rule. The policy goal of the Final Rule is to create consistency across the states. California has been at the forefront of improving the child support program and is already doing many of the things required by the Final Rule.

The child support program allocation has been in use since 2002 and is not based on reasonable methods as is the current proposal. This proposed funding is not premature and would have an immediate and lasting effect on families. We see no benefit in delaying implementation of the methodology and associated funding increases.

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For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino supports the Governor's proposal to increase funding to Local Child Support Agencies and opposes the LAO's recommendation to withhold action on the current proposal. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or [jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov](mailto:jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curt Hagman", with a stylized, flowing script.

Curt Hagman  
Fourth District Supervisor  
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3  
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation