



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

March 10, 2020

The Honorable Joaquin Arambula, M.D.
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: In-Home Supportive Services

Dear Assemblyman Arambula:

The County of San Bernardino is writing to share the County's progress on the implementation of the new County In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Maintenance of Effort (MOE) that was enacted through Senate Bill 80 (Chapter 27, Statutes of 2019). In addition, the County is also writing to share our opposition to the proposals from the United Domestic Workers of America (UDW) related to county IHSS collective bargaining.

The IHSS program provides critical services to seniors and disabled individuals to help them remain in their homes rather than in more expensive institutional care. Counties have proudly partnered with the state and administered the IHSS program since it was realigned in 1991. County social workers, Public Authority workers, and IHSS providers are the backbone of this social services program which has proven to reduce care costs and improve the well-being of residents.

Since the enactment of the 2019 MOE, San Bernardino County has negotiated a new memoranda of understanding (MOU) with SEIU Local 2015. IHSS provider wages as of February 1, 2020 are \$13.00 per hour with a \$0.25 increase effective March 1, 2020 and an additional future wage increase already negotiated at \$0.25 on July 1, 2020.

With regards to wage and benefit negotiations, Senate Bill 80 included a provision to create a one-time 1991 Realignment withholding related to IHSS collective bargaining that could potentially apply to counties without a collective bargaining agreement in place. A county would be subject to the withholding only if certain conditions are met.

UDW has now proposed additional punitive measures related to IHSS collective bargaining. These include increasing the Realignment withholding amount from one percent of the county MOE to seven percent and requiring disclosure and spending

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD
First District

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Second District

DAWN ROWE
Third District

CURT HAGMAN
Chairman, Fourth District

JOSIE GONZALES
Vice Chair, Fifth District

Gary McBride
Chief Executive Officer

limitations on the costs of contract consultants for IHSS negotiations. San Bernardino County opposes both of these proposals since significant progress has been made on IHSS collective bargaining. The proposed disclosure and spending limitation provisions are unnecessary, inconsistent with requirements for other labor negotiations, and ignore the bargaining progress that has occurred.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino respectfully requests that you reject the additional provisions that have been proposed by UDW related to county IHSS collective bargaining. 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. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Subcommittee No. 1
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation