



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

April 18, 2016

The Honorable Ed Hernandez
California State Senate
State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95818

Re: **SB 815 – (Hernandez)** – As Amended on April 11, 2016 - **SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Hernandez:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support SB 815, legislation that would implement California's five-year \$6.2 billion 1115 Medicaid waiver, titled Medi-Cal 2020. The renewed waiver includes critical programs for Medi-Cal beneficiaries and uninsured patients in California, and will enable public health care systems to more effectively provide high quality, accessible care to millions of patients they serve.

As you are aware, public hospitals, such as ARMC, play a central role in the state's safety net and health care landscape, delivering care to all who need it, regardless of ability to pay or circumstances. In fact, public hospitals, which are only six percent of all California hospitals statewide, serve about 2.85 million Californians each year and provide approximately 40 percent of all hospitals care to the state's uninsured residents.

Through the Affordable Care Act, millions of Californians have obtained coverage through Covered California and an expansion of Medi-Cal. Although health care coverage is a critical, foundational element of reform, we know that coverage alone neither ensure access nor improves health. Medi-Cal 2020 will leverage California's coverage expansion with significant payment reforms and delivery system improvements for public health care systems.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support SB 815. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Ramos".

JAMES RAMOS
Board of Supervisors Chairman
Third District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

c: San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD
Vice Chairman, First District

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Second District

JAMES RAMOS
Chairman, Third District

CURT HAGMAN
Fourth District

JOSIE GONZALES
Fifth District

GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer