



CALIFORNIA COLLABORATIVE FOR LONG-TERM SERVICES & SUPPORTS (CCLTSS)

March 15, 2019

The Honorable Eloise Gomez Reyes
State Capitol, Room 2175
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: AB 568 (Reyes) – California Care Corps
Position: Support

Dear Assembly Member Reyes,

The California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports is comprised of 39 statewide aging and disability organizations that promote dignity and independence in long-term living. Our members include advocates, providers, labor and health insurers and collectively we represent millions of California seniors and people with disabilities, their caregivers and those who provide health, human services and housing.

On behalf of California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports, I am writing in support of AB 568, which will create the California Care Corps. The California Care Corps is an incredible solution at some of the most looming cost and moral pressures of the State of California – the care for our growing senior population.

Currently, there are more than 5.5 million Californians who are over 65 years old, a number expected to double in the next 12 years. Unfortunately, there are also an estimated 4.4 million unpaid family caregivers helping provide essential services and care for this aging population. 1 in 4 of these unpaid family caregivers are millennials, many of who dropped out of full-time employment and school to provide care.

Supporting the California Care Corps will help dramatically assist in decreasing the growing financial burden on Medi-Cal, while also allowing unpaid family caregivers to re-enter the workforce or complete their education. Furthermore, it could serve as a youth workforce development program, pipelining

youth who become Care Corps volunteers to ultimately help build the gerontology associated workforce necessary to take care of the growing aging population.

AB 568 is a robust proposal that ensures a growth in the quality of life for our aging population, their families, and the California economy as a whole. AB 568 addresses immediate needs of relieving unpaid family caregivers from their responsibilities in order to re-enter the workforce, as well as the long-term needs of developing a much needed workforce and mitigating financial burdens on our healthcare system.

For these reasons, California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports is pleased to support AB 568.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amber Christ". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amber" and last name "Christ" clearly distinguishable.

Amber Christ
Vice Chair for Policy
California Collaborative for Long Term Services & Supports