



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

September 13, 2018

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor
State of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 398 (Monning) – SUPPORT

Dear Governor Brown:

The California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports is comprised of 38 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.

We are writing in strong support of SB 398 (Monning), legislation which would remove the sunset date on the California Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) program and bring the program's policies and provisions up-to-date.

TBI is a cognitive, psychological, neurological or anatomical change in brain function caused by a blow or jolt to the head or a penetrating head injury. According to the California Association of Traumatic Brain Injury, an estimated 1.3 million residents of California live with this debilitating condition, which can interfere with executive function, employment, interpersonal relations, money management and severely impact all domains of a person's life.

The TBI program is an essential lifeline for this underserved population, providing supported living, community reintegration, vocational supportive services, public awareness and family

support to thousands of individuals thru seven statewide centers administered by the Department of Rehabilitation.

In 2010, the Centers for Disease Control estimated that there were 2.5 million emergency department visits, hospitalizations and deaths in the United States due to TBI. The California Traumatic Brain Injury program provides an essential function of coordinating services to a vulnerable and high-needs population who are often overlooked in systems of care.

We respectfully request your support for SB 398.

Sincerely,



Laurel Mildred, MSW

For the California Collaborative

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cc: Hon. Bill Monning