



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

February 9, 2018

Hon. Joaquin Arambula, MD
Assembly Budget Subcommittee 1 on Health and Human Services
State Capitol, Room 6026
Sacramento, CA 95814

Hon. Richard Pan, MD
Senate Budget Subcommittee 3 on Health and Human Services
State Capitol, Room 5019
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Long-Term Services and Supports Data Budget Proposal - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Arambula and Senator Pan:

The California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports is comprised of 37 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 a budget augmentation to collect and analyze data on long-term services and supports (LTSS) needs and access to services, by incorporating questions about LTSS into the California Health Interview Survey.

Collecting better data is an essential step in planning for the needs of the growing population of California seniors and people with disabilities:

- In the next 15 years the number of Californians over 65 years will increase by 4 million, comprising one-fifth of the state population by 2030.
- Californians at least 85 years of age will increase by over 85%, to about 400,000. More and more, this population will be living alone.
- An increasingly aged population will include many more people with disabilities, some of whom will need supports and services to continue to live independently.
- This population notably includes persons at least 65 years old who are living with Alzheimer's. Medi-Cal costs for this population are expected to grow by nearly 60% in the next ten years. Appropriate home and community-based services are essential to manage these costs.
- The number of younger persons living with significant disabilities is also increasing. For example, the Department of Developmental Services caseload of adults with autism is projected to double in the next five years and triple in the next ten.
- Advances in medical care have increased the lifespan for persons with many disabilities, meaning these persons will require services for a longer period of time.

The state needs to better understand the populations who need LTSS and the geographic and other barriers to accessing services, in order to develop and target interventions to improve health status and reduce state expenditures, now and in the future. Collecting this data is also eligible for federal matching funds.

Understanding California's LTSS needs is an important step to developing the appropriate systems and supports that will allow Californians to live with dignity

and independence despite age, disability or chronic conditions that would otherwise severely limit their daily lives.

We respectfully ask for your support for this proposal.

Sincerely,



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For the California Collaborative
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cc: Hon. Phil Ting, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
Hon. Jay Obernolte, Vice Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
Hon. Holly Mitchell, Chair, Senate Budget Committee
Hon. Jim Nielsen, Vice Chair, Senate Budget Committee
The Hon. Members of Assembly Budget Subcommittee 1
The Hon. Members of Senate Budget Subcommittee 3
Diana Dooley, Secretary, Health and Human Services Agency
Michael Cohen, Director, Department of Finance
Jennifer Kent, Director, Department of Health Care Services
Hon. Anthony Rendon, Speaker, California State Assembly
Hon. Brian Dahle, Assembly Republican Leader
Hon. Kevin de León, President pro Tempore, California State Senate
Hon. Patricia Bates, Senate Minority Leader