**Place on Organizational Letterhead**

**[Date]**

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

Governor of the State of California

State Capitol, 1st Floor

Sacramento, CA 95814

*Attention: Donna Campbell*

**RE: AB 1921 (Maienschein) - Request Signature**

Dear Governor Brown:

[**Name of Your Organization**] respectfully requests your signature on Assembly Bill 1921 (Maienschein).

Homelessness among children and families in our state continues to be a significant problem, and families receiving aid through the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program are no exception. CalWORKs offers both temporary and permanent assistance through the Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) to families who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness.

In addition to temporary housing through the use of motel vouchers, HAP offers assistance to get families into permanent housing, which may include utility deposits, last month’s rent, and/or up to two months of arrearages for a family facing eviction. Currently, however, this long-term assistance requires the recipient household to secure a lease for housing with a commercial establishment or a person in the business of renting properties. As a result, suitable shared living accommodations for families with children cannot be used to prevent or ameliorate homelessness among CalWORKs households.

AB 1921 would allow CalWORKs recipients to use permanent housing assistance payment towards shared housing, with a valid lease or formal shared housing agreement. This small but important change would increase options for our state’s poorest families with children while also improving the effectiveness of the CalWORKs program’s homelessness interventions. For these reasons, [**Name of Your Organization**] supports AB 1921 and respectfully requests your signature on this measure.

Sincerely,

**[Name]**

**[Title]**

cc: The Honorable Brian Maienschein

County Welfare Directors Association of California