Date: May 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Philip Ting  
Chair, Budget Conference Committee

Honorable Members  
Budget Conference Committee

From: Justin Garrett, Legislative Representative, CSAC  
Frank J. Mecca, Executive Director, CWDA

RE: IN HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION – SUPPORT ASSEMBLY VERSION

The California Association of Counties (CSAC) and the County Welfare Directors Association of California (CWDA) request your support of additional funding above that provided in the May Revision to support county administrative costs in the In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program. We are grateful for the $22.8 million General Fund provided in the May Revision and all the work done by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) on a new budget methodology for IHSS administration that led to the additional funding. Yet we believe that IHSS administration remains underfunded and that additional information we have provided since the May Revision demonstrates the need for additional funding.

At the beginning of the 2017-18 fiscal year, CDSS engaged CWDA and counties in comprehensive, collaborative, and productive discussions on the amount of workload required for effective administration of the IHSS program. The result of those discussions was IHSS administration workload assumptions that all parties believe fairly and accurately represents the actual work, and those workload assumptions were incorporated in the budget methodology used to develop the Governor’s proposed budget in January. However, the assumptions used about the costs of IHSS workers were incomplete and CDSS and CWDA continued to work on those assumptions to better inform the May Revision. As a result, the May Revision did address some, but not all, of the issues with the assumptions made in January.

CWDA has provided additional actual county worker cost information in an effort to improve the accuracy of the cost assumptions used in the new budgeting methodology. The Administration has been very open to that information and we appreciate their continued engagement. We are hoping for a positive resolution to these discussions that will result in
additional funding to cover the actual county costs of administering the IHSS program. Thank you for your support.

cc: Gail Gronert, Office of the Assembly Speaker
    Jason Sisney, Office of the Assembly Speaker
    Chris Woods, Office of the Senate President Pro Tempore
    Mareva Brown, Office of the Senate President Pro Tempore
    Nicole Vazquez, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1
    Cyndi Hillery, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office
    Alex Khan, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office
    Theresa Pena, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3
    Rebecca Hamilton, Senate Republican Fiscal Office
    Irene Ho, Office of Assembly Member Philip Ting
    Hans Hermann, Office of Assembly Member Joaquin Arambula
    Marla Cowan, Office of Assembly Member Joaquin Arambula
    Sean MacNeil, Office of Assembly Member Richard Bloom
    Kelly Ash, Office of Assembly Member Rocky Chavez
    Veronica Badillo, Office of Assembly Member Rocky Chavez
    Luan Huynh, Office of Senator Holly Mitchell
    Matthew Montgomery, Office of Senator Richard Roth
    Marvin Deon, Office of Senator Nancy Skinner
    Spencer Street, Office of Senator John Moorlach
    Colin Sueyres, Office of Senator Jim Nielsen
    Mark Newton, Legislative Analysts’ Office
    Ginni Bella Navarre, Legislative Analyst’s Office
    Michelle Baass, Health and Human Services Agency
    Marko Mijic, Health and Human Services Agency
    Will Lightbourne, California Department of Social Services
    Robert Smith, California Department of Social Services
    Kären Dickerson, California Department of Social Services
    Kristin Shelton, HHS, Department of Finance
    Jay Kapoor, HHS, Department of Finance
    County Caucus