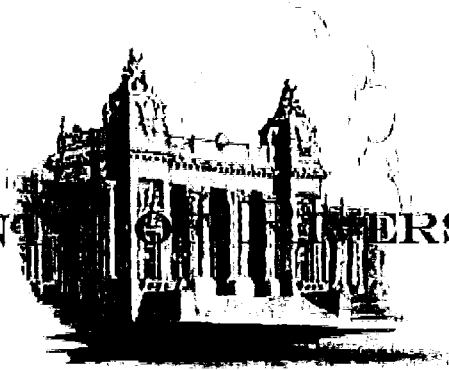


COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



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April 17, 2018

The Honorable Joaquin Arambula, Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1
State Capitol, Room 5155
Sacramento, 95814

Re: Restore CalWORKs Single Allocation Funding

Dear Assembly Member Arambula,

The County of Riverside requests your support of the CalWORKs program by restoring the proposed \$56.5 million cut to the CalWORKs Single Allocation in 2018-19.

The County of Riverside's more employable CalWORKs customers are now back to work and caseloads have reduced. The remaining caseload consists largely of harder-to-serve customers who need the additional intensive case management afforded by Senate Bill (SB) 1041 (2012).

Intensive case management requires a higher level of interaction between caseworkers and customers in order to identify needed Mental Health (MH), Substance Abuse (SA) and Domestic Abuse (DA) treatment, in addition to needed Family Stabilization (FS), Housing Support Program (HSP) and Expanded Subsidized Employment (ESE) services.

Data indicates that the majority of CalWORKs customers who require treatment for MH, SA, and DA issues do not seek treatment, in part, due to fear of disclosure and perceived affect to benefits. Current statutes, established by SB 1041, recognizes the importance of enhanced case management services to ensure customers are linked to these supportive and treatment services that are essential to successfully transition CalWORKs customers to employment and self-sufficiency.

In Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) year 16/17, the County of Riverside experienced a high demand for ESE services, with 1102 referrals resulting in 425 CalWORKs customers being placed into subsidized positions. Thus far in FFY 17/18, the County forecasts an increase in the number of referrals to approximately 1320; however, the number of available subsidized positions are forecasted to decline to approximately 367, which illustrates the increasing difficulty harder-to-serve CalWORKs customers have in gaining employment.

A \$56.5 million reduction to the CalWORKs Single Allocation inevitably reduces the County of Riverside's CalWORKs workforce and increases caseloads. Unfortunately, increased caseloads mean an overall decline to quality customer engagements, employments, activity completions, service referrals,

Dear Assembly Member Arambula,
April 17, 2018
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Work Participation Rates (WPR) and quality of life of CalWORKs customers. The proposed reduction will not provide better outcomes.

As a result, the County of Riverside respectfully urges your support for the restoration of \$56.5 million for the CalWORKs Single Allocation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Chuck Washington
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Matthew Harper, California State Assembly
The Honorable Devon J. Mathis, California State Assembly
The Honorable Blanca E. Rubio, California State Assembly
The Honorable Jim Wood, California State Assembly
The Honorable Jay Obernolte, California State Assembly
The Honorable Philip Y. Ting, Chair, California State Assembly Budget Committee
The Honorable Anthony Rendon, Speaker, California State Assembly
Gail Gronert, Office of the Assembly Speaker
Jason Sisney, Office of the Assembly Speaker
Nicole Vazquez, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1
Cyndi Hillery, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office
Frank Prewoznik, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office
Marla Cowan, Office of Assembly Member Joaquin Arambula
Mark Newton, Legislative Analyst's 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
Justin Garrett, California State Association of Counties
Eileen Cubanski, County Welfare Directors Association of California