

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM  
2.8  
(ID # 6932)

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

FROM : EXECUTIVE OFFICE:

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Letters Sent to Riverside County's Legislative Delegation and  
Pertinent Parties from April 17, 2018 - April 27, 2018, All Districts. [\$0]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Receive and file the Legislative letters sent from April 17, 2018 - April 27, 2018.

ACTION: Consent

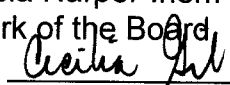
  
Brian Nestande 4/30/2018

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Perez, seconded by Supervisor Tavaglione and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is received and filed as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington, Perez and Ashley  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Date: May 8, 2018  
xc: EO

Kecia Harper-Ihem  
Clerk of the Board  
By:   
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	<b>Current Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Next Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>Ongoing Cost</b>
<b>COST</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>NET COUNTY COST</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b>			<b>Budget Adjustment: No</b>	
			<b>For Fiscal Year:</b>	

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**BACKGROUND:**

As per Board Policy A-27, the purpose of Riverside County's Legislative Program is to secure legislation that benefits the county and its residents, and to oppose/amend legislation that might adversely affect the County. Recognizing the need for consistency in conveying official positions on legislative matters, the county has instituted a coordinated process involving interaction between the Board of Supervisors, the County Executive Office, County agencies/departments, and the County's legislative advocates in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

The Executive Office shall include a copy of the written correspondence that is not based on a specific Board vote as a consent item on the next Board agenda.

**Summary**

Since the last meeting of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, the following letters were delivered to our legislative delegation and all pertinent parties in order to voice Riverside County's Support/Opposition:

**Legislation/Policy:** AB 162 (Cervantes) Continuous Access Carpool Lanes in Riverside County

**Position:** Support

**Recipient:** The Honorable Sabrina Cervantes

**Summary:** AB 162 would specify that in the County of Riverside all HOV lanes – except for existing HOV toll lanes – shall be continuous access. The measure contemplates that double parallel solid lines would be removed, thereby allowing vehicles to enter and exit the carpool lane at any point.

**Legislation/Policy:** AB 1883 (Weber): Military Families: Child Care and Development Services: Food Assistance Benefits

**Position:** Support

**Recipient:** The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher

**Summary:** Specifically, AB 1883 excludes the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) for certain military households from being counted as income for purposes of determining eligibility for subsidized child care. The bill also requires the

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
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Department of Social Services (DSS), by September 1, 2019, to create the Military Families Food Assistance Program for military families who are ineligible for CalFresh benefits because of the inclusion of the BAH as income.

**Legislation/Policy:** AB 2043 (Arambula) Foster Youth: Response System

**Recipient:** Support

**Recipient:** Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher

**Summary:** AB 2043 would provide the avenue for immediate access to de-escalation and behavioral support interventions either by phone or in the home during the moment of crisis. AB 2043 would establish a statewide, toll-free number for foster youth and caregivers to access real-time assistance and direct, immediate connection to local response systems designed to assess and stabilize the crisis. Both the state and local level responses teams would include trauma-informed responders with expertise in diffusing a crisis and linking individuals to ongoing supports and services.

**Legislation/Policy:** AB 2083 (Cooley) Trauma-Informed System of Care for Foster Youth

**Position:** Support

**Recipient:** Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher

**Summary:** Due to the lack of a comprehensive state and local level strategy for coordinating services, foster youth experience delays in accessing appropriate care and often move between multiple foster homes and group homes. These experiences deepen the child's trauma.

As a solution, AB 2083 would require the formation of a State, interagency response team. The interagency response team would focus on the development of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) to connect service agencies, such as child welfare, probation, behavioral health, education, and regional centers, who would not be otherwise connected due to disassociated rules and funding streams.

**Legislation/Policy:** AB 2756 (Medina): Private schools: home schools: filing

**Position:** Support

**Recipient:** Assembly Member O'Donnell

**Summary:** AB 2756 seeks to ensure that information about private homeschools is collected by the California Department of Education (CDE) and made available to the public. This modest transparency measure is an important step toward a shared understanding of the state's private education landscape. CDE has no information collected that indicates the nature of the school setting. Ensuring appropriate transparency about basic information about private homeschools is critical to public health and safety.

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**Legislation/Policy:** AB 3087 (Kalra): California Health Care Cost, Quality, and Equity Commission

**Position:** Oppose

**Recipient:** Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher

**Summary:** AB 3087 would require the Commission to set base payments amounts that hospitals, doctors and other providers can collect from payers. The Commission would use Medicare rates as a floor for determining base amounts for providers and Medicare Advantage rates to set payments to health plans. Providers and health plans would be allowed to appeal for a higher amount based on outstanding factors. Additionally, AB 3087 does not address the underfunding from Medi-Cal and Medicare.

**Legislation/Policy:** Restore CalWORKs Single Allocation Funding

**Position:** Support

**Recipient:** The Honorable Dr. Richard Pan

**Summary:** The County of Riverside requests support for the CalWORKs program by restoring the proposed \$56.5 million cut to the CalWORKs Single Allocation in 2018-19. 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, Work Participation Rates (WPR) and quality of life of CalWORKs customers. The proposed reduction will not provide better outcomes.

**Legislation/Policy:** SB 1303 (Pan) - Coroner: county office of the medical examiner

**Position:** Oppose

**Recipient:** The Honorable Richard Pan

**Summary:** Under SB 1303, counties with a population of more than 500,000 with a consolidated sheriff-coroner office – which includes the County of Riverside – would be required to abolish the office of the coroner and establish an independent office of the medical examiner. The measure then spells out specific organizational elements of the office of medical examiner as well as qualifications for the medical examiner and his or her staff.

**Legislation/Policy:** SB 1416 (McGuire) – Local Government; Nuisance Abatement

**Position:** Support

**Recipient:** The Honorable Mike McGuire

**Summary:** Specifically, SB 1416 would authorize, until January 1, 2024, cities and counties to collect fines related to the nuisance abatement using a lien or special assessment. This authority represents an important new tool for local governments in ensuring compliance with fire and building codes and in protecting public safety. Importantly, the measure would require any recovered

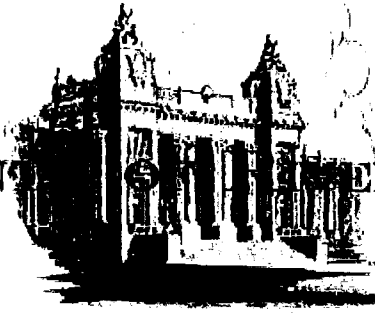
**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
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finances or penalties related to these provisions to be used for supporting local enforcement of state and local building and fire code standards.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- AB 162 Letter
- AB 1883 Letter
- AB 2043 Letter
- AB 2083 Letter
- AB 2756 Letter
- AB 3087 Letter
- Restoration of CalWORKS Letter
- SB 1303 Letter
- SB 1416 Letter

# COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



## Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
District 2	John F. Tavaglione 951-955-1020
District 3 <i>Chairman</i>	Chuck Washington 951-955-1030
District 4	V. Manuel Perez 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

April 17, 2018

The Honorable Richard Pan  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 5114  
Sacramento CA 95814

RE: SB 1303 (Pan) - Coroner: county office of the medical examiner  
County of Riverside: OPPOSE – Per Legislative Platform  
As amended 3/22/2018 - Awaiting hearing in Senate Public Safety Committee

Dear Senator Pan:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write to respectfully oppose SB 1303, your measure that would require specified counties to change the local organizational structure with respect to investigating and determining the circumstances and manner of certain deaths.

Under SB 1303, counties with a population of more than 500,000 with a consolidated sheriff-coroner office – which includes the County of Riverside – would be required to abolish the office of the coroner and establish an independent office of the medical examiner. The measure then spells out specific organizational elements of the office of medical examiner as well as qualifications for the medical examiner and his or her staff.

Under current law, counties have clear and unfettered authority to create a separate office of the medical examiner. Indeed, several jurisdictions have done so. SB 1303 would – irrespective of the current circumstances in a given county and without regard to a jurisdiction's capacity to assume new and likely substantial costs associated with operating the office of the medical examiner – eliminate the local boards of supervisors' authority in making an important local governance decision. Further, we also believe it is important to acknowledge the existing shortage of pathologists nationwide, which would be exacerbated by the new requirements set forth in SB 1303.

The County of Riverside believes that the duly elected board of supervisors remains the most appropriate body to evaluate fiscal and operational impacts associated with organizing the County's many vital functions. For this reason, we must respectfully oppose SB 1303. If you have any questions about the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande at (951) 955-1110 or [bnestande@rivco.org](mailto:bnestande@rivco.org).

Sincerely,

Chuck Washington  
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: Members and Counsel, Senate Public Safety Committee  
Riverside County Delegation



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April 27, 2018

The Honorable Mike McGuire  
Chair, Senate Governance and Finance Committee  
State Capitol, Room 5061  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 1416 (McGuire) – Local Government; Nuisance Abatement  
As amended April 4, 2018; Set for hearing May 9 in Senate Governance and Finance  
Committee  
Per County Platform – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator McGuire:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of SB 1416, your measure that would establish a new nuisance abatement procedure for local governments.

Specifically, SB 1416 would authorize, until January 1, 2024, cities and counties to collect fines related to the nuisance abatement using a lien or special assessment. This authority represents an important new tool for local governments in ensuring compliance with fire and building codes and in protecting public safety. Importantly, the measure would require any recovered fines or penalties related to these provisions to be used for supporting local enforcement of state and local building and fire code standards.

The measure incorporates notification requirements to property owners and provides an opportunity to respond following the commencement of a nuisance abatement in a public hearing. A special assessment or lien may follow if the property owner fails to pay the costs of the nuisance abatement. While current law makes violations of a county ordinance subject to administrative fine, penalty, or citation, there are certain circumstances when these tools are insufficient to address the nuisance. The County of Riverside has considerable experience with property owners who have not been deterred by the issuance of fines. Therefore, we believe that the new authority that would be conferred by SB 1416 is appropriate and would be used judiciously.

The Honorable Mike McGuire  
April 27, 2018  
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For these reasons, the County of Riverside is pleased to support your measure. If you have any questions about the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande at (951) 955-1110 or [bnestande@rivco.org](mailto:bnestande@rivco.org).

Sincerely,

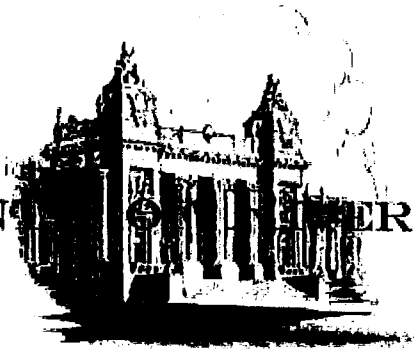
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chuck Washington".

Chuck Washington  
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Governance and Finance Committee  
Riverside County Delegation



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April 17, 2018

The Honorable Dr. Richard Pan, Chair  
Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 3  
State Capitol, Room 5114  
Sacramento, 95814

Re: Restore CalWORKs Single Allocation Funding

Dear Senator Pan,

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, Work Participation Rates (WPR) and quality of life of CalWORKs customers. The proposed reduction will not provide better outcomes.

The Honorable Dr. Richard Pan, Chair  
April 17, 2018  
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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  
The County of Riverside, Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Bill Monning, California State Senate  
The Honorable Jeff Stone, California State Senate  
The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Chair, California State Senate Budget Committee  
The Honorable Toni Atkins, President pro Tempore, California State Senate  
County Welfare Directors Association of California  
Chris Woods, Office of the Senate President Pro Tempore  
Theresa Pena, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3  
Rebecca Hamilton, Senate Republican Fiscal Office  
Luan Huynh, Office of Senator Holly Mitchell  
Bernadette Lawrence, Office of Senator Richard Pan  
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  
Justin Garrett, California Association of Counties  
Eileen Cubanski, County Welfare Directors Association of California



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April 24, 2018

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: AB 1883 (Weber): Military Families: Child Care and Development Services: Food Assistance Benefits – As Amended April 2, 2018  
Set for Hearing in Assembly Appropriations Committee on April 25, 2018  
Per Board Action: SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I am writing in support of AB 1883 by Assembly Member Weber, which would provide child care and food assistance support to military families.

Specifically, AB 1883 excludes the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) for certain military households from being counted as income for purposes of determining eligibility for subsidized child care. The bill also requires the Department of Social Services (DSS), by September 1, 2019, to create the Military Families Food Assistance Program for military families who are ineligible for CalFresh benefits because of the inclusion of the BAH as income.

California has 184,540 active military and reserve men and women. The BAH aims to provide members of the military living off base with the necessary funds to cover the costs of housing. The BAH is based on housing market prices in the area where the individual lives and is set based on where the service member is stationed, his or her pay grade, and his or her dependent status. While the BAH is nontaxable, it is considered income for purposes of determining eligibility for certain assistance programs, including some child care programs and CalFresh. A Census Bureau in 2013 reported that approximately 23,000 active-duty service members relied on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (CalFresh in California).

Unemployment of some military spouses reaches up to 30 percent according to the Institute for Veterans and Military Families. With reduced ability to have two breadwinners, the FINRA Investor Education Foundation found that more than 40 percent of military personnel had difficulty making ends meet, rising to 56 percent of entry-level personnel. Unfortunately, current state law does not allow many families who receive the Basic Allowance for Housing from receiving state childcare, early education programs or CalFresh Food Benefits. This puts military families at significant risk of food insecurity. It also puts quality childcare and early education programs beyond the reach of many of these families.

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
April 24, 2018  
Page 2

For these reasons, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors supports AB 1883. If you have any questions about the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact our Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande, at (951) 955-1110, [bnestande@rivco.org](mailto:bnestande@rivco.org).

Sincerely,



Chuck Washington  
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Shirley Weber, Member, California State Assembly  
Members and Consultants, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Riverside County Delegation



# COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

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April 24, 2018

The Honorable Sabrina Cervantes  
Member, California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 5164  
Sacramento CA 95814

**RE: AB 162 (Cervantes) – Continuous Access Carpool Lanes in Riverside County  
As amended 4/9/2018 – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Cervantes:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of AB 162, your measure that would require high-occupancy vehicle (HOV or carpool) lanes in the County of Riverside allow for continuous access.

As you are aware, HOV lanes are configured differently in Northern and Southern California. In the north part of the state, HOV lanes are marked by continuous broken white lines, which permits vehicles to move in and out of those lanes at any point. In Southern California, however, HOV lanes offer more limited access in that there are designated entry and exit points; the length of the lane in between those points is marked by solid, double yellow lines. Drivers who enter and exit the limited access HOV lanes outside of the designated points are subject to considerable fines.

AB 162 would specify that in the County of Riverside all HOV lanes – except for existing HOV toll lanes – shall be continuous access. The measure contemplates that double parallel solid lines would be removed, thereby allowing vehicles to enter and exit the carpool lane at any point. This policy change is supported by research that has shown that limited access HOV lanes are associated with negative safety outcomes as measured by various collision metrics. Further, a UC Riverside study showed that, given the restrictions on traffic flow, limited HOV lane access produces increased vehicle exhaust emissions as compared to continuous access HOV lanes.

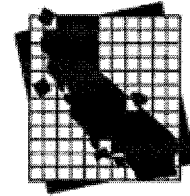
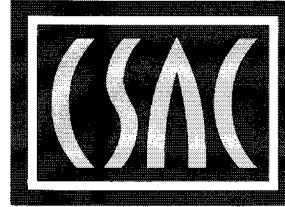
For these reasons, the County of Riverside is pleased to support AB 162. If you have any questions about the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact our Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande, at (951) 955-1110, [bnestande@rivco.org](mailto:bnestande@rivco.org).

Sincerely,



Chuck Washington  
Chair, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: Riverside County Delegation



**GISDA**

April 19, 2018

The Honorable Mark Stone  
Chair, Assembly Judiciary Committee  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol Building, Room 3146  
Sacramento, CA 95814



**RE: AB 1912 (Rodriguez). Public Employees' Retirement: Joint Powers Agreements: Liability.**  
**Notice of Opposition (*as amended*)**

Dear Assembly Member Stone:

On behalf of the League of California Cities (LOCC), and the undersigned organizations we must respectfully oppose Assembly Bill (AB) 1912 relating to retirement liabilities of Joint Powers Authorities (JPA).

Local governments have a long history of addressing service delivery challenges with creativity, self-reliance and innovation. Unique local challenges and limited resources continue to fuel innovative efforts to obtain expertise and provide high quality services. JPAs play a vital role in promoting regional and, in some cases, statewide collaboration in addressing public needs that cannot be effectively achieved by each local government agency acting on its own. These activities include regional public improvements, local and statewide infrastructure for water and roadways, emergency communications systems, law enforcement, fire protection, emergency medical services, and public financing, among others. We are deeply concerned that JPAs will no longer be a viable tool should AB 1912 become law.

As amended, AB 1912 places substantial burdens and new unworkable requirements on local and state agencies. It applies retroactive as well as prospective joint and several liability for all retirement related obligations to any current or former member of a JPA since inception. Such obligations include active employee normal pension costs, retiree unfunded accrued liabilities (UAL), as well as both active and retiree healthcare and other post-employment retirement benefits (OPEBs). These costs cannot be overstated. According to the State Controller's Office's most recently available data, the unfunded liability of California's 130 state and local government pension plans stand at \$241.3 billion and \$125 billion for retiree healthcare costs.

Additionally, the measure would mandate that a public retirement systems, like California Public Retirement System (CalPERS), 37 Act System, or a city-based retirement systems file suit against all local or state agencies that have ever been a member of a terminated JPA for all retirement related obligations. It also prohibits any retirement system from approving a new JPA without a contract containing express joint and several liability provisions. It should be noted that this massive departure from current law creates a “slippery slope” that must be considered. Given that pension and OPEB liabilities can be a leading cost-driver for local agencies, it’s not unreasonable that lawmakers would seek to include other employer/employee related costs such as PERB findings, impasse procedures, tort liabilities, or other general debts and obligations incurred by a JPA. The provisions set forth in AB 1912 create constitutional, fiscal, and operational challenges, which would effectively eliminate the ability for local and state agencies to create or maintain the use of most JPA’s. Specifically AB 1912:

**Conflicts with Provisions of the California State Constitution:**

California’s constitutional debt limit prohibits a local government from incurring indebtedness beyond its ability to pay back the debt from revenues received in the same fiscal year absent the two-thirds voter approval (*Cal Const. art XVI, §18*). These safeguards were placed in the State’s constitution to avoid a situation in which bond issuers might compel an increase in taxes or foreclose on local government assets (*City of Redondo Beach v Taxpayers, Property Owners, Citizens & Electors (1960) 54 C2d 126, 131*; *County of Shasta v County of Trinity (1980) 106 CA3d 30, 35*).

AB 1912 seeks to apply retroactive joint and several liability to existing contracts and in doing so, will require local governments to incur significant debts that in many cases will exceed an agency’s annual revenue without receiving voter approval, therefore violating the sighted constitutional provision.

Further, it can be argued that retroactively incurring debts of another agency violates Article XVI, §6 of the California Constitution, which prohibits an agency from giving or lending public funds to any person, public or private entity. A JPA is an independent governmental body whereby the agency members have no legal, statutory oversight or managing authority. Liabilities from such entities retroactively applied to each member agency would constitute a gift of public funds to an individual(s) and/or public entity.

**Gives Authority to Increase the Amount Owed Through Assumption Changes and/or Investment Losses to Retirement System:**

Retirement obligations are unlike other forms of traditional debts and liabilities. Unfunded retirement liabilities are particularly volatile and can grow to insurmountable costs based on no fault of the local governments that contract with a retirement system for health and pension benefits. It is estimated that in Fiscal Year 2008-09 the CalPERS system lost approximately \$100 billion dollars in assets resulting in a gross loss of 34.75 percent of the fund’s total value. According to CalPERS (Circular Letter #200-004-17) employer contributions are projected to double by Fiscal Year 2024-25. Additionally, those costs are poised to grow even more in the short term when factoring CalPERS recent decision to modify its amortization schedule from 30 years to 20. As outlined in SEC 6. Section 20575:

*“...the board shall enter into an agreement with the governing body of a terminated agency or the governing body of the member agency in order to ensure ... (2) **related necessary adjustments in the employer’s contribution rate are made from time to time by the board** prior to the date of termination to ensure that benefits are adequately funded or any other actuarially sound payment technique, including a lump-sum payment at termination is agreed to by the governing body of the terminating agency and the board”.*

AB 1912 would hold all agencies of a JPA accountable for the investment shortfalls, future discount rate reductions, and other assumptions changes made by the retirement agencies even if the agencies are able to pay the lump sum amount of the current unfunded liability from the JPA. They would also be on the hook for decisions made after a local government left a JPA. As noted in the Assembly Committee on Public Employees, Retirement, and Social Security (Assembly PERS) Analysis, retirement agencies already have this authority as a provision of the agreement made with the a public agency. However, there is a significant difference between a retirement agency having that discretionary authority as a condition of the agreement when both parties *mutually agree* upon such provisions at the time they entered the contract versus, (as what is proposed in Ab 1912) granting that same authority to the retirement agency for debts and liabilities from employees *that at no time* were employees of said public agency.

**Gives Retirement System Agency Authority to Apportion “Joint and Several” Liability:**

As stated in SEC 6 subsection (d), AB 1912 would grant exclusive authority to the public retirement system agency to unilaterally assign liabilities to all current and former agencies of a JPA *“in an equitable manner.”* As an initial matter, “joint and several” liability is a legal term of art that allows a plaintiff to sue for and recover the full amount of recoverable damages from any defendant, regardless of a particular defendant’s percentage share of fault. If the legislative intent is to create “several” liability that is apportioned among JPA members, this should be clarified so that individual JPA member are not held liable for the full amount.

JPA’s have been in existence in California for nearly 100 years with state and local agencies. Some JPAs have as many as 500 members entering and exiting as service demands shift and evolve. It would be virtually impossible for the JPA’s governmental body, let alone a retirement system, to retroactively assign “equitable” retirement specific liabilities to potentially hundreds of agencies. This is especially concerning when you factor in the various assumption changes outlined in the section above. The broad and ambiguous direction demonstrates a fundamental misunderstanding of the formation, management, and purpose of a JPA which will inevitably lead to a perpetual cycle of protracted and costly litigation contesting the retirement agency’s discretion of proportional liability.

Even if the bill is amended as stated in the Assembly PERS Committee analysis, the difficulty of assigning “equitable” liability amongst current and former JPA members will remain. Additionally, if the parties can’t agree, which is likely, the retirement system agency still retains the right to unilaterally assign the liabilities.

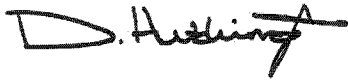


**Creates Funding and Operational Impairments:**

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued regulations (GASB 68, 2012 and 76, 2015) that require each state and local agency to report all financial liabilities associated with public pension and OPEB costs. These reporting standards play a vital role in assessing the fiscal health and viability of an agency. Incurring retroactive debt would require each originating agency of a JPA to report these liabilities as debts, impacting an agency's net financial position. A drastic spike in liability could contribute to the downgrading of an agency's credit rating, which in turn would make issuing and servicing future bonds more costly through higher interest costs and additional required insurance.

JPA's are tools state and local government agencies use to address service demands and infrastructure needs in a cost effective manner. Removing this tool makes it that much more problematic to address statewide critical issues such as housing, transportation, water, air quality, workforce development, public safety, and much more. While the intended goals of your measure are laudable, for the reasons stated above we must strongly oppose Assembly Bill 1912. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions on our position. To reach us, please contact Dane Hutchings (LOCC) 916-658-8200, Dorothy Johnson (CSAC) at 916-650-8133, Dillon Gibbons (CSDA) at 916-442-7887 Jolena Voorhis at 916-327-7531, Faith Lane Borges at 916-441-5050 or Jean Kinney Hurst (Riverside County) at 916-245-3445.

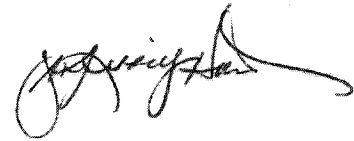
Sincerely,



Dane Hutchings  
Legislative Representative



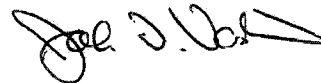
Dorothy Johnson  
Legislative Representative



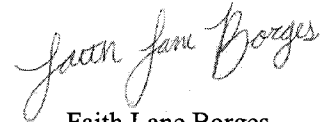
Jean Kinney Hurst  
Legislative Representative



Dillon Gibbons  
Senior Legislative Representative



Jolena Voorhis  
Executive Director



Faith Lane Borges  
Legislative Advocate

cc: Members, Assembly Judiciary Committee  
Thomas Clark, Staff Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee  
Joshua White, Consultant, Republican Caucus



# COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

## Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
District 2	John F. Tavaglione 951-955-1020
District 3 <i>Chairman</i>	Chuck Washington 951-955-1030
District 4	V. Manuel Perez 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

April 27, 2018

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: AB 3087 (Kalra): California Health Care Cost, Quality, and Equity Commission  
Awaiting Hearing in Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Per Board Action: OPPOSE**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to respectfully oppose AB 3087 by Assembly Member Ash Kalra which would establish an independent Health Care Cost, Quality and Equity Commission.

Specifically, AB 3087 would require the Commission to set base payments amounts that hospitals, doctors and other providers can collect from payers. The Commission would use Medicare rates as a floor for determining base amounts for providers and Medicare Advantage rates to set payments to health plans. Providers and health plans would be allowed to appeal for a higher amount based on outstanding factors.

Riverside County is concerned that the Commission process in AB 3087 does not take into account the underlying drivers of health care costs, resulting in a simplistic approach to a complex problem. Riverside University Health System (RUHS) includes a 439-bed Medical Center, 10 Federally Qualified Health Centers and several primary and specialty clinics throughout Riverside County, and the departments of Behavioral and Public Health. The Medical Center is a designated Stroke Center, Level II Trauma Center, and the only Pediatric ICU in the region. Additionally, RUHS is a teaching organization training doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and public, behavioral and allied health professionals.

Riverside University Medical Center operates in the red today. In 2013, the hospital's revenue shortfall was \$54 million; RUHS is anticipated to end the current year with a \$15 million deficit. The County is concerned that AB 3087 will increase the current losses on hospital operations by decreasing payments from commercial providers. Additionally, AB 3087 does not address the underfunding from Medi-Cal and Medicare. Riverside University Health System is underpaid by these two programs, resulting in payment shortfalls.

Riverside is a challenging health care market, with significant provider shortages from primary care physicians to psychiatrists. The County is concerned that the Commission could make the ability to continue to operate a public hospital and health system, as well as recruit and retain physicians in a shortage area, difficult if not impossible.

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
April 27, 2018  
Page 2

For these reasons, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors opposes AB 3087. If you have any questions about the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact our Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande, at (951) 955-1110, [bnestande@rivco.org](mailto:bnestande@rivco.org).

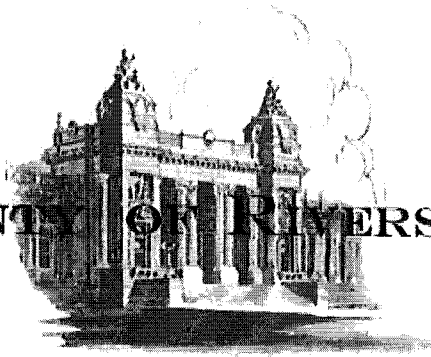
Sincerely,



Chuck Washington  
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Ash Kalra, Member, California State Assembly  
Members and Consultants, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Riverside County Delegation

# COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



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April 24, 2018

The Honorable Patrick O'Connell, Chair  
Assembly Education Committee  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 2756 (Medina): Private schools: home schools: filing  
As amended 4/02/18 – SUPPORT  
Per Board Action  
Set for hearing April 25, 2018 – Assembly Education Committee**

Dear Assembly Member O'Donnell:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write to support Assembly Bill 2756, Assembly Member Jose Medina's measure that seeks to ensure that information about private homeschools is collected by the California Department of Education (CDE) and made available to the public. This modest transparency measure is an important step toward a shared understanding of the state's private education landscape.

Regrettably, our awareness of this issue was heightened by the recent tragic situation in Perris. Existing requirements for private school reporting are institution-focused and fail to adequately capture the variety of types of private school settings. As a result, CDE has no information collected that indicates the nature of the school setting. Ensuring appropriate transparency about basic information about private homeschools is critical to public health and safety.

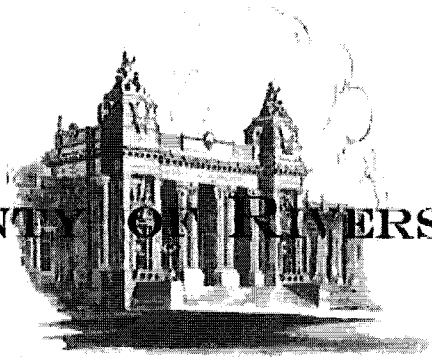
We appreciate that these are sensitive issues but believe that AB 2756 is a modest and reasonable first step towards improved transparency for private homeschools. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Brian Nestande, Deputy County Executive Officer, at [bnestande@rivco.org](mailto:bnestande@rivco.org).

Sincerely,

Chuck Washington  
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Education Committee  
The Honorable Jose Medina, California State Assembly  
Riverside County Legislative Delegation

# COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



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April 27, 2018

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: AB 2083 (Cooley) Trauma-Informed System of Care for Foster Youth –  
SUPPORT–Per Legislative Platform**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher:

Riverside County is in support of AB 2083 by Assembly Member Cooley. AB 2083 would expand the availability of coordinated, trauma-informed services for severely traumatized foster youth.

The Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) effort requires counties to reduce the use of congregate-care (group-homes) and provide in-home based services needed by foster youth and their families. Riverside County continues to work diligently to implement CCR and has had some success in diverting youth from group-home care. Unfortunately, we continue to face challenges in meeting the needs of our foster youth who often have co-occurring, complex issues that require assistance from multiple service providers, such as mental health, substance abuse, education, and developmental disabilities.

Due to the lack of a comprehensive state and local level strategy for coordinating services, foster youth experience delays in accessing appropriate care and often move between multiple foster homes and group homes. These experiences deepen the child's trauma.

As a solution, AB 2083 would require the formation of a State, interagency response team. The interagency response team would focus on the development of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) to connect service agencies, such as child welfare, probation, behavioral health, education, and regional centers, who would not be otherwise connected due to disassociated rules and funding streams.

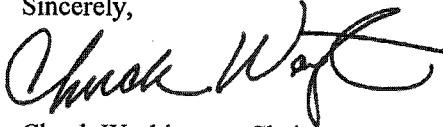
AB 2083 would also require the State, interagency agency response team to assess and develop recommendations that address gaps in availability of placements/placement types and the development of a plan that would increase the number of trauma-informed practitioners available to serve traumatized foster youth.

As an example of effectiveness, Riverside County currently maintains MOUs with local probation and behavioral health agencies which facilitates the successful exchange of confidential client information, clarification of agency roles, and the delivery of timely trauma-informed services to foster youth. AB 2083 would facilitate additional MOUs and greater success.

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
April 27, 2018  
Page 2

These elements are critical in meeting federal and state child welfare outcomes, the goals of CCR, and the Riverside County goal of better serving the needs of our children. For all of these reasons, Riverside County supports AB 2083.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Washington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "W".

Chuck Washington, Chairman  
Riverside County Board of Supervisors



# COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

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April 27, 2018

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: AB 2043 (Arambula) Foster Youth: Response System – SUPPORT- Per  
Legislative Platform**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher:

Riverside County is in support of AB 2043 by Assembly Member Arambula. AB 2043 would establish a Family Urgent Response System for Foster Youth and Caregivers which will provide immediate trauma-informed response in times of emotional crisis with the intent to keep families intact.

The Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) effort seeks to reduce use of congregate (group-home) care and serve foster youth in home-based settings, cared for by loving resource families. Unfortunately, one key element missing from the CCR reform effort is an immediate response system which is needed to stabilize youth in their homes and communities during times of emotional or behavioral stress.

For foster youth who have had traumatic experiences, even minor incidents become triggers that result in an emotional outburst or negative behaviors. Without immediate support, foster youth and caregivers can quickly become overwhelmed resulting in a breakdown of that family unit, placement disruption, and additional trauma.


AB 2043 would provide the avenue for immediate access to de-escalation and behavioral support interventions either by phone or in the home during the moment of crisis. AB 2043 would establish a statewide, toll-free number for foster youth and caregivers to access real-time assistance and direct, immediate connection to local response systems designed to assess and stabilize the crisis. Both the state and local level responses teams would include trauma-informed responders with expertise in diffusing a crisis and linking individuals to ongoing supports and services.

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
April 27, 2018  
Page 2

To illustrate the need, in Riverside County, one of our children who had suffered trauma was moved from a group-home to the home of the child's grandmother. The child had difficulty transitioning. Neither the child nor grandmother were able to receive immediate, trauma-informed support and services and, ultimately, the child was re-placed into a group-home. Similar accounts are not uncommon.

AB 2043 would provide the tools needed to maintain stable relationships for foster youth and caregivers and improved outcomes intended by the CCR reform effort. For these reasons, Riverside County supports of AB 2043.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Washington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "W".

Chuck Washington, Chairman  
Riverside County Board of Supervisors