



County Executive
David Villanueva

Governmental Relations and
Legislative Officer
Elisia De Bord

County of Sacramento

Board of Supervisors
Phillip R. Serna, District 1
Patrick Kennedy, District 2
Rich Desmond, District 3
Sue Frost, District 4
Patrick Hume, District 5

May 16, 2024

The Honorable Mike McGuire
President Pro Tempore
State Capitol, Room 8518
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Speaker of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 8330
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Scott Wiener, Chair
Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee
State Capitol, Room 8620
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee
State Capitol, Room
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: CalWORKs Home Visiting Program May Revision \$47.1 Million Ongoing Cut - Oppose

Dear Assembly Member Friedman:

On behalf of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, I respectfully write to oppose the Governor's May Revision proposal to cut \$47.1 million ongoing from the CalWORKs Home Visiting Program. This represents a 45% cut to the program and will substantially impact voluntary, evidence-based home visiting programs designed to strengthen children and their families.

Voluntary, evidence-based home visiting programs (HVPs) are backed by decades of research that demonstrates improved outcomes for both parents and children. These HVPs match trained professionals with expecting and new parents to help them with critical early development for their children. Research shows that HVP participation benefits children and their families, such as better maternal and infant health, reduced emergency room visits, and increased safety practices. For children who participate to age 5, research shows improved language and cognitive development, improved math and reading scores, reduced absenteeism, and decreased school suspensions. For every \$1 invested in HVPs, communities receive a benefit of up to \$5.70 in savings in child welfare, K-12 education, and community safety.¹ Ultimately, these programs can generate public savings by increasing healthy births, boosting positive parenting practices, reducing child maltreatment, and increasing family self-sufficiency in the forms of adult educational attainment, career training, and employment.

Voluntary, evidence-based HVPs are one of the best investments California can make to ensure children and families living in poverty have the opportunity to succeed. For these reasons,

¹ Home Visiting: Improving Outcomes for Children. <https://www.ncsl.org/human-services/home-visitingimproving-outcomes-for-children>

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Sacramento County urges you to reject the Governor's proposed May Revision cut to the CalWORKs Home Visiting Program. Please feel free to contact me at (916) 874-4627 or deborde@saccounty.gov.

Respectfully,



Elisia De Bord
Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer

cc: Members and Staff of the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee Members and Staff of the Assembly Committee on Budget
Ginni Bella Navarre, Deputy Legislative Analyst, LAO
Joe Stephenshaw, Director, California Department of Finance Kim Johnson, Director, California Department of Social Services Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary, Health and Human Services Agency
Sacramento County Delegation
Chair and Members, Board of Supervisors
Audrey Ratajczak, Cruz Strategies