County Executive
David Villanueva

Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer Elisia De Bord



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

June 12, 2024

The Honorable Kevin McCarty California State Assembly State Capitol, Room Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2593 (McCarty). Joint Exercise of Powers Act (JPA): Sacramento County Partnership on Homelessness. – Oppose (As amended June 6, 2024)

Dear Assembly Member McCarty:

On behalf of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, I respectfully write to oppose AB 2593. The County thanks your office for meeting with us on your AB 1086 in 2023 and recent AB 2593 on this subject and asks you to consider the County's input as previously shared.

Sacramento County regularly meets with local jurisdictions to achieve the goals set forth in AB 2593. This measure seeks to form a Sacramento County partnership on homelessness to develop and manage a strategic plan to address homelessness within the County. On March 12, 2024, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and City Council adopted the Regionally Coordinated Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Plan (HHAP), which gives strategies for heightened regional collaboration. Since the Plan adoption, entities hired a consultant who finalized a report on shared governance models. The report was presented to the County and all cities with a request to participate in an exploratory committee to determine the best governance approach for the region, which we have done. This exploratory committee is interested in heightened collaboration but does not agree that a JPA is the best model for our region at this time. We will continue to work toward a more effective model of collaboration that is cost-effective and fair so that all partners have a voice in strategic development.

While AB 2593 is said to be an optional program and JPA formation law already exists, the County questions the merits of this legislation. The County worked closely with your office over several months to help shape both AB 1086 (2023) and AB 2593. In 2023, the County shared our "Consultant Report on Sacramento Regional Governance Options" on examples of governance models on regional homelessness coordination. Sacramento County's input was partially considered as the JPA model language was removed, but only to be reinstated in AB 2593. The County's input has not been considered in good faith and AB 2593 reads too restrictive while it alludes to giving the County a choice.

June 12, 2024 -2-

The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and our City partners should be the ones to collectively choose the best model to combat homelessness in the region and with proper funding, which this measure lacks. Most of the funding for homeless programs does not rest with counties, and the City gets double the HHAP allocation that the County receives. The County receives funding for behavioral health services, which we already heavily invest in services to the unhoused and this will continue to grow under Prop 1.

Sacramento County continues to partner with local agencies to tackle homelessness in our region and thanks you for your leadership to do the same. Please feel free to contact me at (916) 874-4627 or deborde@saccounty.gov.

Respectfully,

Elisia De Bord

Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer

cc: Sacramento County Delegation

Chair and Members, Board of Supervisors

Audrey Ratajczak, Cruz Strategies