

Date: June 1, 2016

To: The Honorable Phil Y. Ting
Chair, Budget Conference Committee
Honorable Members, Budget Conference Committee

From: Jordan Lindsey, State Policy Director

Re: SSC Positions on Health & Human Services Issues in the Conference Committee

Dear Chairperson Ting,

The Senior Services Coalition (SSC) represents 40 organizations that provide health and supportive services to over 57,000 seniors in Alameda County. We are writing to you today regarding Conference Committee issues in the 2016-17 budget and ask that you support the items below:

Adopt Senate Positions on the No Place Like Home Initiative

SSC supports the following actions taken by the Senate Budget Committee related to the No Place Like Home Initiative.

- SSC supports a \$2 billion bond funded by proceeds from the Mental Health Services Fund to build 10,000 units of supportive housing for persons living with mental illness.
- SSC supports a \$50 million two year investment in the Housing and Disability Income Program to be matched dollar for dollar by counties to provide robust SSI benefit advocacy and housing while the SSI application is pending.
- SSC supports the Senate action to provide \$50 million over four years for housing assistance for homeless persons.

Adopt Senate Version on SSI/SSP Grant Increase of \$10 a month

SSC supports the Senate version of increasing SSI/SSP grants by \$10 a month. This action will go further to restore some of the \$77 a month that was cut from grants for SSI recipients during the recession. To date, no restorations have been provided and 1 million Californians have dropped below the poverty level due to the cuts.

Adopt Assembly Funding for Senior Nutrition and Adult Protective Services Training

- SSC supports the Assembly action to provide \$5.4 million to augment senior nutrition programs (Meals on Wheels), allowing the program to recover the lost number of meals served because of inflation and provide an additional 730,000 meals annually.

Senior Services Coalition
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- SSC supports the Assembly action to provide \$5.0 million for a statewide training system for APS staff to better protect and serve seniors and dependent adults who are victims of abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration of our requests. We look forward to working with you in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jordan Lindsey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jordan" being more prominent than the last name "Lindsey".

Jordan Lindsey
State Policy Director, Senior Services Coalition