

Assemblymember Richard Pan
Chair, Assembly Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 94249-0070
Fax 916-319-2197

April 4, 2014

Re: AB 1805 - Support

Dear Dr. Pan:

The Senior Services Coalition represents over 41 organizations that provide health and supportive services to over 50,000 seniors in Alameda County. We are writing to express our support for AB 1805 (Skinner) that would restore the Medi-Cal rates for many providers cut in 2010, including the Community-Based Adult Services program. This restoration would prevent further closures of CBAS/Adult Day Health centers.

CBAS services provide essential nursing, clinical, occupational and other supports to seniors and adults with disabilities and multiple complex chronic conditions. CBAS has already taken the 10% Medi-Cal cut effective June 2011, and the Governor's proposal to forgive retroactive cuts will not help CBAS. Because of the cut, Fifty-one centers have closed in the past two years. At least five additional centers will close within a few months if the CBAS rate is not restored. In Alameda County, two centers have closed.

Center closures have had a devastating impact on persons with dementia, mental and physical health conditions; adult day health care overall attendance has dropped 26% since 2010-11, with 9,454 fewer persons served. Access to care is being impacted at the very time CBAS is needed to be in place for the Coordinated Care Initiative. In Alameda County, the Medi-Cal Managed Care plans estimate that they will need over 250 additional program "slots" to adequately serve their members.

The restoration of the CBAS rate is estimated to cost less than \$8 million, and will ensure necessary continuity of care to some of California's most vulnerable elders and persons with disabilities. We urge you to support the restoration of the CBAS rate to preserve access to care and prevent further closures.

We urge your support for this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Wendy Peterson
Director, Senior Services Coalition of Alameda County

CC: Assembly Member Rob Bonta, fax 916-319-2118
Assembly Member Bob Wieckowski, fax 916-319-2125