



Los Angeles County Office of Education

Serving Students ■ Supporting Communities ■ Leading Educators

August 18, 2017

Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent

Los Angeles County
Board of Education

Alex Johnson
President

Thomas A. Saenz
Vice President

Douglas R. Boyd

James Cross

Gregory McGinity

Monte E. Perez

The Honorable Ricardo Lara
Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, California 95814

AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) – OPPOSE

Dear Senator Lara:

The Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Debra Duardo must regrettably oppose AB 1250, as amended on June 21, 2017. This bill will be considered by the Senate Committee on Appropriations on August 21, 2017.

The process that is outlined in AB 1250 to approve proposed contractors would take a considerable amount of time to complete, and delay the opportunity to meet client needs. Currently, a process exists in which the Personnel Commission or Human Resources screens and approves proposed contractors.

Some small contractors would be unable to pay for the costs for an audit or would increase their rates to cover the audit costs. The types of contracts that would be exempt lack clear definition, and would be subject to interpretation. The request for additional documentation for savings only adds to the length of the process, and ultimately affects services to clients.

If enacted, AB 1250 will have a direct, negative impact upon LACOE and services LACOE provides to the county's 80 K-12 public school districts and two million preschool and school-age children in Los Angeles County School Districts, LACOE schools (County Community Schools-Independent Study, Community Day Schools, Juvenile Court Probation Camp Schools, Juvenile Detention Center Schools, Road to Success Girls Academy, Special Education, Children with Severe disabilities programs, Teen Parents, Los Angeles High School for the Arts, International Polytechnic High School, and LACOE Authorized County Charter Schools), Head Start-State Preschool, Early Start, Transitional Kindergarten, Health Coverage Enrollment and Retention Program (HOP), Mental Health, Violence Prevention (Gang), Friday Night Live, Expanded Learning, Homeless and Foster Youth Program, Visual and Performing Arts Program, Military/Connected Children and Families, Connected Science Education and Field Study Program, Advancement Via Individual Determination/College and Career Readiness Program; Career Technical Education (LACOE-CTE) with trade apprenticeship training program sponsors in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, Cosmetology, Electrical, Roofers, Sound and Intercommunication, Studio Electrician; Yearly Academic events (Academic Decathlon, Science Fair, Environmental Fair, History Day, Teacher of the Year, Poetry Out Loud, Digital Voice Awards, Science Olympiad, and the Spelling Bee), Best Project (Business Enhancement System Transformation), Technology Infrastructure Services, Technology Applications Development and Support, LACOE School Financial Services, School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (SMAA), and Greater

AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) – Oppose Letter
August 18, 2017
Page 2

Avenues for Independence (GAIN) because these programs and services receive local county funding and state funding as a segment of their funding structure, and utilize contractors, non-profit organizations, and licensed professionals to support implementation of program services.

AB 1250, if enacted, will limit the ability for LACOE to receive services from and/or contract directly with Los Angeles County departments and Los Angeles County service agencies that provide essential services for children, individuals and families in LACOE schools and programs as noted previously. Los Angeles County departments and service agencies include, but are not limited to: health services, mental health services, Probation Department, Department of Public Health, Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services, L.A. Care Health Plan, My Health L.A., Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, Children's Superior Court, Children and Family Services, 211 L.A., Los Angeles County Fair, Los Angeles County Regional Parks, Los Angeles County Libraries, Child Support Services, Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Veterans Assistance, Welfare to Work, First 5, and Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

AB 1250 would negatively impact school attendance (students receiving reduced services are vulnerable for high school absenteeism, high school dropout, and homelessness) and innovative programs for students in Los Angeles County School districts that support the most vulnerable and talented populations. Furthermore, AB 1250 would adversely impact financial resources and stability of school districts in Los Angeles County.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your NO vote for AB 1250 when your committee considers this bill.

Sincerely,



Pamela E. Gibbs, J.D.
Director, Governmental Relations

cc: The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Author of AB 1250
Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee
Mark McKenzie, Staff Director, Senate Appropriations Committee
Karen Stapf Walters, Executive Director, State Board of Education
Camille Wagner, Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Governor's Office
Jeff Bell, Education Program Budget Manager, Department of Finance
Debra Brown, Director, Government Affairs Division, CDE
Cheryl Black, Education Finance Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus

PG/sn