











Rescue-A-Life Foundation







Yolo Audubon Society



June 14, 2024

Senator Thomas Umberg
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
1021 O St. (Room 6530)
Sacramento, CA 94578

RE: In strong support of AB 2496 (The Foster Family Agency Accountability Act)

Dear Senator Umberg,

The commercial insurance market has rarely been kind to nonprofit organizations. 35 years ago, nonprofits came together to solve many of the insurance problems facing us. Despite our successes, changes in the judicial system have made it more challenging to insure certain nonprofits. These changes have even paralyzed some nonprofit sectors, such as foster family agencies (FFAs), to the point of being uninsurable.

FFAs are nonprofit organizations licensed by the Community Care Licensing Division of the California State Department of Social Services to engage in the recruiting, approving, and training of, and providing professional support to, certified parent(s), or in finding homes for placement of children for temporary or permanent care who require that level of care as an alternative to a group home.

We are standing in solidarity with our fellow 501(c)(3) nonprofit foster family agencies (FFAs). Despite 12,000 of us coming together to solve our collective insurance difficulties with our own state-authorized, nonprofit risk pool, Nonprofits Insurance Alliance of California (NIAC), FFAs face imminent loss of their insurance due to changes in judicial processes beyond their control.

Nonprofits provide essential services to our communities. From food banks, to homeless shelters, to affordable housing, to care of children and seniors, nonprofits provide many mandated government services in a cost-effective and efficient manner. This includes the foster family agency system.

As nonprofits, we understand our responsibility to the clients we serve. We understand that nothing in AB 2496 will prevent injured foster children from recovering damages from responsible parties — nor should it!

We support AB 2496 and urge you to support it as well. Please ensure that FFAs can continue to do their important work for California's children.

Respectfully,

Monica Sena, 3greenassistance

David McCoy, A Coming of Age to Adulthood, Inc

Mary Frame, A Greater Hope

Jessi Maurice, A Greater Hope

Mandy Fazeli, A More Balanced World

Dr. Suzette Mohammed, A New Beginning Foster Family Agency

Kara Green, ABLED

Ana Moncada , Advanced Healthcare Administration

Mel Hoffman, Adventure Risk Challenge

Jeneba Kilgore, Agroecology Commons

Cheyenne Sauter, AHA Projects

Ebony Berryman , Alba Care

Ruby, Alba Care Services

Sanjuana Mora, Alba Care Services

Marsella Amador, ALBA Care Services Inc.

Ana Sanchez, Alba Care Services Inc.

Angela Rojas, Alba Care Services, Inc.

Yesenia Quintanilla, Alba Care Services, Inc.

Krystal Johnson, Aldea

Julie Burns, Aldea

Kerry Ahearn, Aldea Children & Family Services

Kim Catanzano, Aldea Inc

Allen Palmer, Allen Palmer

Tiffany Ramirez, Alpha Treatment Centers

Silvera Grant, Altadena Community Garden

Loc Chau, Alum Rock Counseling Center, Inc

Damian Willson, American Indian Child Resource Center

Donny Smoke-Adolph, American Indian Child Resource Center

Doug Shively, Anaheim Fall Festival

JoAn M Pettite, Anaheim Public Library Foundation

Holly Carmody, Angels Foster Care of Santa Barbara

Debra Mendelsohn, Animal Care & Adoption Network

David Davamony, Anova Family Services

Paula Morgan, Apex Professional Services, Inc., DBA Harmony Homes Foster Family Agency

Katrina Woodcox, Arc of Butte County

Alice Dorothy, Ark Homes FFA

David K Mathias, Ark Homes Foster Family Agency

Thena Trygstaad, Art Escape

Jaime Zavala, artworxLA

Brian Tremain, Aspiranet

Claire Ann Kocek, Assistance League of Orange California

Helena Lopez, Association of Foster Family Agencies

Marilyn Langbehn, Bay Area Theatresports dba BATS Improv

Gwyn Grenrock, Berggruen Institute

Craig Zacuto, M.A., LMFT, Beta Foster Care, FFA

Linda Keller-Bulman, Big Bear Valley Education Trust

Rick Ohren, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bay Area

Jennifer Dhillon, Bounce Back Generation Inc.

Michelle Greenhouse, Bright Horizons FFA

Jennifer Bravo Ford, Brookdise Edu., Inc.

Will Max, Building Bridges

Robert Mathias, Building Bridges Foster Family Agency

Rennie Cleland, Butte Valley Museum and Historical Society

Elena M Nadih, California Family Life Center

Pamela Elie-Dunkley, California Family Life Center

Cynthia Macias, California Family Life Center

Mary Snow, California Family Life Center

Rachel Katz, California Pan-Ethnic Health Network

Kate Wolfson, California Pit Bull Rescue

Dan Gross, California Revels

Alex Krem, Camping Unlimited for the Developmentally Disabled

Sheryn Hildebrand, CASA of Mendocino and Lake Counties

Teresa Romney, CASA of Ventura County

Mona Afary, Center for Empowering Refugees and Immigrants (CERI)

Marco A Jimenez, Central Valley Children's Services Network

Autumn Johns, Ceres Community Project

Frank Ruiz, Champions Recovery Alternative Programs, Inc.

Don Kleinfelder, Child Advocates of Placer County

Jessica Headington, Child Parent Institute

Allan Greenberg, ChildNet Youth and Family Services, Inc.

Chelsea Boniak, Children Rising

Benjamin Payne, Children's Hope Foster Family Agency

Heather Payne, Children's Hope Foster Family Agency

Gayla, Children's Plus Foster Family Agency

Ramona Blake, Children's Plus Foster Family Agency

Alissa Hauser, Circle of Life

Arianna Barrios, City of Orange

Rebecca, Coastal Seniors

Marsha Hovey, Collaborating Agencies' Disaster Relief Effort

Jennifer Dickey, College Park Friends Educational Association

Rex B Kennemer, Community Alliance for Healthy Minds

Wendy Cruz, Community Housing Developers

Michelle Rios, Concilio Child Care Centers

Conrade Mayer, Cordova Lancers Leaders and Legends

Monica H Bellizzi, Corneal Dystrophy foundation

Kimberly Petree, Cosumnes Culture and WaterWays

Joy Biddle, Creative Alternatives

Arleen Cabrera, Creative Solutions for Kids & Families

Linda Montoya, Creative Solutions for Kids & Families

Ryan Cargando, Creative Solutions For Kids and Families

Douglas Yost, Crittenton Services for Children and Families

Virginia Young, CYC

Rob Ollander-Krane, Dance Ranch Palm Springs

Charlaine Mazzei, MSW, Del Norte Senior Center - Community Action Partnership of Del Norte

Laura Broderick, Diverse Journeys Inc

Meri McCoy-Thompson, Dovetail Learning

Jon McDaniel, Dream Catchers EDH

Joanna Kim-Selby, East Bay Korean American Senior Services Center

Tina Collins, East Valley CHARLEE, Inc.

Nancy Taylor, Ecumenical Peace Institute

Sandrine Tournier, Education Francaise de Sacramento

Doris Vega, Eggleston Family Services

Yvonne Shaffer, Emotional Health Association

Karen Houser, Encompass Youth

Rigoberto Garnica, Escuela de la Raza Unida

Nancy Wang, Eth-Noh-Tec

Peggy Smith, Expressions of Hope

Rosalva Gutierrez, Families Uniting Families

Gladys Cervantes, Families Uniting Families

Jorge Salazar, Families Uniting Families

Devon Ivey, Families Uniting Families

Raul Benitez, Families Uniting Families

Carlee Okerman, Families Uniting Families

Nancy Montejo, Families Uniting Families

Sydney Traxler, Families Uniting Families

Julia Bobadilla, Families Uniting Families

Stephanie Mendoza, Families Uniting Families

Lilian Garcia, Families Uniting Families

Xiomara Perez, Families Uniting Families

Jill Jacobs, Family Builders by Adoption

Linda Joyner, Family Health & Support Network

Robbie Peer, Family Health & Support Network, Inc.

Thomas Spencer, Finegold Trust

Sandy Acevedo, Firefighters Burn Institute

Benjamin Wells, Following Francis

Corey Tipton, Food for People

Marilyn Rothman, Friends of Big Band Jazz

Daniel J Weaver, Friends of the Geneva Office Building and Power House

Evelyn Callas, Friends of the Mt. Shasta Library

Pat Wilson, Friends of the San Diego Public Library

Teri Amirkhan, Futuro Infantil Hispano, FFA

Miranda Cordova, Golden State Family Services

Erin McCreery, Golden State Family Services, Inc.

Christine Westbrook, Goodwill Central Coast

Jessa Garippo, Gracious Heart Resource Family Agency

Lia Andrews, Gracious Heart Resource Family Agency

Tyger Caygill-Walsh, Grassroots Power Project

Helena Lopez, Greater Hope Foundation for Children, Inc

Michelle Greenhouse, Greenhouse Family Services

Ranon Hampton, Guardians of Love Foster Family Agency

Kinikki Fullerwood, Guardians of Love Foster Family Agency

Lorena Flores, Happy Children Resource Center FFA

Randy Strickland, Haven Family Services

Paula J Petrosky, Healing Partners of the Central Coast

Nathaniel Miller, Heroes Deserve Help

Ryan McEachron, High Desert Community Foundation

Ted Nordquist, Homeless Action Sonoma Inc

M. L. Levkoff, Homeless Animal Rescue Team

Sheila Nixon, House of Acts Substance Abuse Program

Meghan Medlin, Hub for Integration, Reentry & Employment

Jennifer Brown, Humboldt Neurohealth Therapeutic Services

Daphne Felde, Hutchins Street Square Foundation

Yvonne E. West, Inland Valley Council of Churches DBA Inland Valley Hope Partners

Myeisha Jacobs, Inland Valley Recovery Services

Sandro Villa, Inner Circle Foster Family Agency, Inc.

Scott Sullender, Interfaith Counseling Center

Frank Deturris, Italian American Heritage Foundation (IAHF)

Andy Dellenbach, Jimmy Miller Memorial Foundation

Janet Hunt, June Lake Loop Performing Arts Association

Kay Sweeney, Kateri Tekekwitha Fund

Vikki Balet, Keep Youth Doing Something, Inc.

Sharon Cromartie, Kids & Families Together

Ron Emard, Kids Charities

Julia Powers, Kings Beach Friends of the Library

Lynn Overtree, Kinship Center

Yolanda Gulliam, Lady Bug Ministry, Inc.

Rama Khalsa PhD, Land of Medicine Buddha

Angela Reed, Lassen Family Services

María L Quintanilla, MSW LCSW, Latino Family Institute

Frankie S. Elmore, Learning to Learn, Inc.

Angel Schwind, LifeLine Community Development Corp.

Chari Bockelmann, Lifetime Adoption Foundation

Patricia M Griffin, Linked Foundation

John Schniedwind, Literacy Partners Menlo Park

Stefanie Chan, Little Children's Developmental Center

Alex Krem, Living Unlimited

Nicole Gomez, Loma Prieta Community Foundation

Stephen Kennedy, Los Angeles Christian Health Centers

Robin Cederlof, Main-Begg Farmhouse

Kathleen Kearley Green, Marin Agricultural Land Trust

Will Sanchez, McKinley

Joan Levison, Menorah Park

Christine Gearing, Me-One

Sara Chae, Mia's Homes FFA

Leslie Bloom, Mia's Homes FFA

Sylvia Shih, Monterey Peace and Justice Center

Becky Beavers, Mountain Homeless Coalition

Janet Milhous, Mountain Valley Child And Family Services Inc.

Teresa Petrie, MVCFS

Ken Ross, NAIC

Jennifer D King, National Council of Negro Women, Inc. East Oakland-Hayward

Pam Glover, NCCDI

Marjorie Determan, Nevada County Citizens for Choice

Mary Preston, Nevada County Concert Band

Stacey Palau, New Life Community Services

Marcelo Cabrera, New Life FFA

Thinh Pham, New Way

Colsaria Henderson, Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence

Lynn E Roller, NIAC

Hajira Khan, Niswa Association,inc

Lori Mab, No Easy Props

Kathy Flock, None

Bruce Edmundson, Northern California Bluegrass Society

Cristian Omar Palao, Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services

Nidia Canello, Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services

Linda Govan, Oakland Museum Women's Board

Aimee Yan, OCA San Mateo chapter

Tonya Danielly, Oceanside Ivey Ranch Park Association

June Pouesi, Office of Samoan Affairs of California, Inc.

Cynthia Mumford, Omni Youth Programs

Kimberly Hammack, On The Rise, Inc.

Amy Tadlock, Pacific Youth Alliance

Felicia Alford, Palm Springs International Film Society

Lauren Neves, Parks California

Lance Davis, Parson's. Nose Theater

Tami Lopez, Pathway Family Services

Laura Martinez, Pathway Family Services

Kevin S Caudle, Pathway Family Services

Luci Green, Pathway Family Services Inc.

Rick L Smith, Pathway Family Services, Inc.

Beatrice Bauerly, Paws In Need

Martin H. Rattner, Peninsula Harmony Chorus, Inc.

Katayun Salehi, People First of Santa Cruz County

Katherine Burton, PREFund.org

Tomoko Patrick, Public Works Group

Keysha Baynes, Pulse Arts

Julie Smyrnos, Redding City Ballet

Dwayne McELwee, Rescue-A-Life Foundation

Fahad Siadat, Resonance Collective

Rimon Toma, Rimovision Group

Danelle Threatt, Rise Up! 94965 Foundation

Megan Isadore, River Otter Ecology Project

Myra Hernandez, S & L Foster Family Agency

Lakiesha Hohl, S & L Foster Family Agency

Michuan Fleming, Safe Place for Youth

Thomas Stanko, Saint Vincent de Paul Society, Roseville Aea Conference, Inc.

Jeanne Bauer, San Carlos Community Garden

Kelly Wood, San Carlos Community Garden

Linda Flower, San Diego Center for the Blind

Sandy Luebben, San Diego Woman's club Foundation

Stephen Perdicaris, San Francisco Music Mission Corporation

Patricia Lathrop-McPherson, San Buenaventura Symphony Orchestra

Amy Derryberry, SBCFAN

Candice Mohammed-Abdelhadi, SCCCC Rebuilding Lives Foster Family Agency

Monica, Sentencing Alternatives

Yvonne Lorva, SF African American Historical and Cultural Society

Dolores Sheen, Sheen Educational Foundation dba Sheenway School and Culture Center

Monte Meyers, Shining Star Consulting

Maria E. Martinez, Sibling Care, FFA

Greg Armer, Small Potatoes Foundation

Darryl Roberts, SNAP Cats

Mary Forthun, Social Vocational Services

Jeff Hinderscheid, Sol Treasures

Holly Smith Jone, Solana Beach Civic and Historical Society

Marlette West, Solano Pride Center

Debbie Hirth, SolMateo

Linda Hoeck, SolMateo

Pam Wilkinson, Spay4LA

Gina Peck-Sobolewski, St. Anne's Family Services

Isabelle Sance, Stacy Hope Rescue

Cecilia R. Pace, Starshine Treatment Center

Dinorha Flores, Steady Studios, Inc.

Deanna Wilson, Streams in the Desert Foundation, Inc

Sandy Miyamoto, Sulia's Hope

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Kathi Torres, Survivor Leader Network San Diego

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Cheyenne Lane, Tahoe Youth and Family Services

Larry Fox, Temple Beth Hillel

Richard A. Sprott, The Alternative Sexualities Health Research Alliance

Theresa Larkin, Ph.D., The Artists' Collective

Connie Sobczak, The Body Positive

Cecilia Westbrook, The Coptic Foundation for Social Justice DBA The Good Shepherd Family Services

Jessa Garippo, The Heart Matters Foster Family Agency

Lia Andrews, The Heart Matters Foster Family Agency

Carrie Mathews, The Heart Matters Foster Family Agency

Despina Kayichian, MD, The Hummingbird Project

Patricia Martin, The STAR Foundation

Cynthia Hertlein, The Upjohn California Fund

Madalena Cooper, The Village Family Services

Lauren Dottore, The Village Family Services

Cristina Bostanian, The Village Family Services

Monica Jimenez, The Village Family Services

Jessica Conway, The Village Family Services, Inc.

Brett Cline, THELOSTCHURCH.ORG, INC

Tanya Telson, Three Girls Theatre Company

Chester Sobotka, Travelers Aid of the Inland Empire

Nancy Reagh, Triad Family Services

NaTacey Singleton, United Connections Foster Family Agency

Tatiana Turner, Urban Social Services And Advocacy

Karen L. Marlatt, Valley Oak Children's Services, Inc.

Lorraine Romero, Victor Treatment Centers

Kirsten Rigsby, Village Community Resource Center

Rebecca, Voices for Children

Cathy Moyer, Volunteers for Outdoor California

Sue Evans, Walden Environment dba Walden Family Services

Andi Leigh, Walden Family Services

Louis Nuyens, Watershed Preservation Network

John Craig, weCompost2

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Roy Hernandez, West Covina Foster Family Agency dba Sunrise Horizon

Linda Lucero, Yerba Buena Arts & Events

Marnelle Gleason, Yolo Audubon Society

Diane Ortiz, Youth Alliance

Cheryl Maier, Youth Service Bureau

Stephanie Daniels, Youth Together Inc

David Grannis, Zero Emissions Transit

cc:

Members, Senate Judiciary Committee

Assemblymember Gail Pellerin