Support for AB 2496

California Nonprofit Support for AB 2496
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Rev. 6/13/2024
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
Cheyanne 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 Familty 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 Fundation 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
Earl Williams, LCSW & MFT, Sunrise Horizon FFA
Kathi Torres, Survivor Leader Network San Diego
J. Michael Graglia, Syngap Research Fund
Cheyanne 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

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

NaTicey 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

Sukhwinder Singh, West Covina Ffa DBA Sunrise Horizon
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