

**BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS**

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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

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Second District

**JOAN HARTMANN**  
Third District, Vice Chair

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Fourth District, Chair

**STEVE LAVAGNINO**  
Fifth District

February 26, 2021

The Honorable Susan Talamantes Eggman  
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review  
Subcommittee #3  
State Capitol, Room 5019  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Joaquin Arambula  
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1  
State Capitol, Room 6026  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Increased Local Child Support Agency Funding – Support and Amend (SB 112 & AB 214)**

Dear Senator Eggman and Assemblymember Arambula:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors in alliance with the Child Support Directors Association (CSDA) to support their request for an augmentation to the Governor's proposed funding for local child support operations. While the Governor's proposal would increase funding for Local Child Support Agencies (LCSAs) \$24.9 million above current levels, that does not meet the resource needs of LCSAs as they work to address California's child poverty crisis.

CSDA requests a funding increase of \$56.5 million (\$19.2 million State General Funds, matched by \$37.3 million in federal funds) above fiscal year (FY) 2020-2021 funding – an additional \$31.6 million above the January proposal. This is part of an existing three-year plan to fund LCSAs at a level that meets their operational needs and ensures their ability to provide appropriate, effective services. This \$31.6 million augmentation to the Governor's proposal would represent a critically needed step toward addressing the California child support program's severe underfunding crisis.

The program provides essential services to families and the economic impact from the COVID-19 pandemic underscores the importance of our program. The funding would help to address a decades long underfunding and enable Local Child Support Agencies to use the money for operational needs and providing effective services.

The Board of Supervisors adopted a 2021 Legislative Platform that includes the Inter-Agency Collaboration Principle that specifically states that the County will partner with the advocacy efforts of organizations and other local, regional agencies and associations in order to collaborate on mutually beneficial issues such as the protection of children, and other "at risk" populations while upholding the principles of efficient service delivery and operations, fiscal stability and

local control. In addition to the Pandemic Funding Relief for Local Governments Plank that states that the County, if not provided proper funding or backfill, will be forced to make significant reductions or cuts to a broad range of public services and to its staff. Counties need fiscal assistance to stabilize local government operations to offset the devastating impacts the crisis is having on our communities.

If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Nancy Anderson at 805-568-3407 or [NAnderson@countyofsb.org](mailto:NAnderson@countyofsb.org). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Cliff Berg  
*Governmental Advocates, Inc.*

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #3 Honorable  
Members, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1  
The Honorable Nancy Skinner, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee The  
Honorable Phil Ting, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee  
Renita Polk, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
Nicole Vazquez, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee  
Rebecca Hamilton, Budget Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus  
Cyndi Hillery, Budget Director, Republican Assembly Caucus  
Mareva Brown, Office of the Senate President pro Tempore  
Gail Gronert, Office of the Assembly Speaker  
Ginni Bella Navarre, Legislative Analyst's Office  
Jacqueline Barocio, Legislative Analyst's Office  
Adam Dorsey, Department of Finance  
Brent Houser, Department of Finance  
Marko Mijic, California Health and Human Services Agency  
Vishaal Pegany, California Health and Human Services Agency  
David Kilgore, Director, Department of Child Support Services  
Nan Chen, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Child Support Services  
The Honorable Senator Monique Limon, 19<sup>th</sup> Senate District  
The Honorable Assemblymember Steve Bennett, 37<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
The Honorable Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors  
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer  
Nancy Anderson, Legislative Coordinator, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors  
Justin Garrett, California State Association of Counties