



JENNIFER KENT
DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

August 5, 2019

The Honorable Anthony Portantino, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Portantino:

ASSEMBLY BILL 567 (AS AMENDED JUNE 13, 2019) – OPPOSE

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) must inform you of its opposition to Assembly Bill (AB) 567. The bill would establish the Long Term Care Insurance Task Force, within the California Department of Insurance, to explore the feasibility of developing and implementing a statewide long-term care services and supports (LTSS) insurance program.

DHCS opposes AB 567 because the bill is duplicative of processes and efforts carried out by the Department, including its participation with the recently concluded California Partnership for Long-Term Care Task Force, to address the LTSS needs of California's aging population. DHCS is currently involved in various stakeholder advisory committees related to addressing care coordination, mental health, LTSS, and access to care. Additionally, DHCS has the ability to convene stakeholder workgroups and advisory committees to explore the feasibility of developing and implementing a statewide long-term care insurance program.

Furthermore, the Budget Act of 2019 includes General Fund monies for DHCS to conduct a feasibility study and actuarial analysis of LTSS financing and service options. The study and analysis is to be developed in consultation with stakeholders and provide projected cost estimates of alternative financing and service options as well as possible impacts to existing state funded programs and services, including Medi-Cal and the In-Home Supportive Services program.

For these reasons, DHCS must oppose AB 567.

If you have any questions regarding our position, please feel free to contact me at (916) 440-7500.

Honorable Anthony Portantino
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Sincerely,

O/S Carol Gallegos

Carol Gallegos, Deputy Director
Legislative & Governmental Affairs
Department of Health Care Services

cc: The Honorable Assemblymember Ian Calderon
State Capitol, Room 319
Sacramento, CA 95814

Vice-Chair and Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
Senate Republican Caucus
Senate Floor Analysis
Department of Finance
CHHSA Legislative Unit
GO Deputy Legislative Secretary