

**ERIN HANNIGAN**

District 1, (707) 553-5363

**MONICA BROWN**

District 2, Vice-Chair, (707) 784-3031

**WANDA WILLIAMS**

District 3, Chair Pro-Tem (707) 784-6136

**JOHN M. VASQUEZ**

District 4, Chair, (707) 784-6129

**MITCH MASHBURN**

District 5, (707) 784-6030

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

# SOLANO COUNTY

**BILL EMLÉN**County Administrator  
(707) 784-6100675 Texas Street, Suite 6500  
Fairfield, CA 94533-6342  
Fax (707) 784-6665[www.solanocounty.com](http://www.solanocounty.com)

June 27, 2023

The Honorable Phillip Ting  
Chairman, Assembly Budget Committee  
1021 O St., Ste. 8230  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Nancy Skinner  
Chairwoman, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee  
1021 O St., Ste. 8630  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB/SB 120 (Committee on Budget) Human Services – Oppose as Amended (June 26, 2023)**

Dear Chairman Ting and Chairwoman Skinner,

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I write to inform you that we must respectfully oppose AB/SB 120, which would change the In-Home Support Services (IHSS) collective bargaining penalty from a one-time 7 percent of the County Maintenance of Effort (MOE) amount (enacted in 2021) to an ongoing annual 10 percent of the County MOE amount for Counties that fail to reach an IHSS collective bargaining agreement.

While Solano County supports and understands the important work that IHSS workers provide for the County, we have very serious concerns about the IHSS penalty language contained in this trailer bill. For starters, there was no transparency with the development of this proposal, as it was not included on any agenda or discussed at any budget hearing in 2023. Secondly, 53 Counties, including Solano County, have already reached IHSS collective bargaining agreements since 2017. Finally, under the bill's provisions, Counties would be penalized, unfairly, even if they follow all applicable laws, negotiate in good faith, and offer IHSS providers with a wage increase.

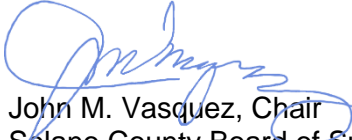
Solano County negotiated an IHSS wage increase of \$0.70 per hour in 2021, and we have an existing agreement that lasts through June 30, 2024. While we would not be immediately impacted by the state's penalty at this time, we fully acknowledge that we could be in the future. The California State Association of Counties estimates that Counties who fail to reach an IHSS collective bargaining agreement could face fines equivalent to a \$1 dollar per hour wage increase. Here in Solano County, we estimate our costs to be approximately \$1.6 million dollars annually (10 percent of our \$16.6 million MOE) – just in fees – should we become out of compliance for any reason.

Under the state's proposal, Counties, including Solano County, could follow all applicable laws governing IHSS collective bargaining, negotiate in good faith, and offer IHSS providers with a wage increase, however, could be punished with an annual penalty, even though they did everything in their power to budget and pay for IHSS services. Here in Solano County we fully recognize the funding necessary to pay the state's fines will have to come from somewhere – likely from other social services we provide, including Public Health, Mental Health and Behavioral Health Services. These are all critical services our clients rely on for their physical, mental and emotional wellbeing.

In conclusion, Solano County respects, supports and acknowledges the important work of all our IHSS providers, recognizing they are the backbone of the social service programs that have been proven to reduce the cost of care, help keep clients in their homes, and improve their overall health and wellbeing. It is for these reasons and more that Solano County Board of Supervisors must respectfully oppose the IHSS collective bargaining agreement penalty language as part of AB/SB 120.

AB/SB 120 Opposition Letter  
June 27, 2023 / Solano County, CA  
Page 2

Sincerely,



John M. Vasquez, Chair  
Solano County Board of Supervisors

**CC:**

Members, Assembly Budget Committee  
Members, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
Members, California State Assembly  
Members, California State Senate  
The Honorable Bill Dodd, Senator  
The Honorable Lori D. Wilson, Assemblymember  
The Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors  
Gerald Huber, Director, Solano Health and Social Services  
Teri Ruggiero, Solano County Public Authority Administrator  
Karen Lange, SYASL Partners