May 26, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Room 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Toni Atkins
President pro Tempore
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell
Chair, Committee on Budget & Fiscal Review
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anthony Rendon
Speaker
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Phil Ting
Chair, Committee on Budget
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 6026
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: California State Budget – Preservation of Sexual and Reproductive Health Care
Proposition 56 Funding

Dear Leaders of the California State Legislature,

As legislators who stand with Planned Parenthood, we are deeply concerned about your May Revision to the budget that proposes to shift $1.2 billion in Proposition 56 funding, including $100 million set aside for sexual and reproductive health care services, starting July 1, 2020. While we are ready to make the difficult decisions to address the state’s immense fiscal challenges, this proposal defies the promise made to Californians who voted for Proposition 56 to ensure timely access, limit geographic shortages, and ensure quality care.

Specifically, shifting funds away from sexual and reproductive health care would adversely affect the ability of Californians to get the care they need in a time when patients already face economic instability and access to care has never been more at risk under the federal government.
Hundreds of thousands of our constituents rely on Planned Parenthood’s 108 health centers. A leading provider of sexual and reproductive health care, Planned Parenthood provides the full scope of services, including birth control, cancer screenings, STI testing and treatment, LGBTQ care, and safe, legal abortion. **Their health centers provide more than a million patient visits each year, 85 percent of which are for patients enrolled in Medi-Cal or Family PACT.**

We appreciate your Administration’s work last year to support an allocation of Proposition 56 funding for sexual and reproductive health care services in the 2019-20 budget totaling $100 million. This necessary investment in Family PACT and Medi-Cal family planning services in 2019 is vital to the sustainability of the safety-net providers that provide these services and should remain intact.

Additionally, the proposed cuts to the Proposition 56 funding for family planning services will have an outsized impact because of the amount of federal funding that it brings to California.

**Family planning services currently receive an enhanced federal match of 9:1 to encourage access to those services, thus this proposal would result in a nearly one-billion-dollar loss in funds for sexual and reproductive health care services for California’s Medi-Cal population and low-income patients who have no other source of coverage and rely on programs like Family PACT.**

Planned Parenthood is home to an expanding patient base, and a vast majority of the Californians they see live in under-resourced communities. Providers like Planned Parenthood, including smaller independent health centers, often are the only source of health care for some Californians, especially those that are low-income or without insurance. A population we know is growing during this crisis.

**We support a state budget that leaves Proposition 56 funding for sexual and reproductive health services intact.** As we stand with Planned Parenthood, we will stand by the vital funding in the state budget to ensure continued access to these critical services.

Sincerely,

Sydney Kamlager  
Assemblymember, District 54
Connie Leyva
Legislative Women’s Caucus, Chair
Senator, District 20

Scott Wiener
LGBTQ Caucus, Chair
Senator, District 11

Benjamin Allen
Senator, District 26

Bob Archuleta
Senator, District 32

Jim Beall
Senator, District 15

Anna Caballero
Senator, District 12

Bill Dodd
Senator, District 3

Maria Elana Durazo
Senator, District 24

Cathleen Galgiani
Senator, District 5

Steven Glazer
Senator, District 7
Lena Gonzalez  
Senator, District 33

Robert Hertzberg  
Senator, District 18

Melissa Hurtado  
Senator, District 14

Hannah-Beth Jackson  
Senator, District 19

Holly J. Mitchell  
Senator, District 30

Dr. Richard Pan  
Senator, District 6

Anthony Portantino  
Senator, District 25

Susan Rubio  
Senator, District 22

Nancy Skinner  
Senator, District 9

Henry Stern  
Senator, District 27
Thomas Umberg  
Senator, District 34

Bob Wieckoski  
Senator, District 10

Monique Limón,  
Legislative Women’s Caucus, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember, District 37

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LGBTQ Caucus, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember, District 78

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Assemblymember, District 4

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Assemblymember, District 16

Marc Berman  
Assemblymember, District 24

Richard Bloom  
Assemblymember, District 50

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Assemblymember, District 76

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Assemblymember, District 18
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Assemblymember, District 62

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Assemblymember, District 51

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Assemblymember, District 60

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Assemblymember, District 49

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Assemblymember, District 25

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Assemblymember, District 9

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Assemblymember, District 27  

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Assemblymember, District 28  

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Assemblymember, District 77  

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Assemblymember, District 22  

Al Muratsuchi  
Assemblymember, District 66  

Adrin Nazarian  
Assemblymember, District 46  

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Assemblymember, District 70  

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Assemblymember, District 74  

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Assemblymember, District 20  

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Assemblymember, District 40

Eloise Reyes
Assemblymember, District 47

Luz Rivas
Assemblymember, District 39

Robert Rivas
Assemblymember, District 30

Freddie Rodriguez
Assemblymember, District 52

Blanca Rubio
Assemblymember, District 48

Miguel Santiago
Assemblymember, District 53

Christy Smith
Assemblymember, District 38

Mark Stone
Assemblymember, District 29

Dr. Shirley Webber
Assemblymember, District 79
Buffy Wicks
Assemblymember, District 15

CC: The Honorable Members of the Senate Budget Committee
    The Honorable Members of the Assembly Budget Committee
    The Honorable Members of the Senate Budget Sub Committee on Health & Human Services
    The Honorable Members of the Assembly Budget Sub Committee on Health & Human Services
    Anthony Williams, Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Newsom
    Marjorie Swartz, Policy Consultant, Senate ProTem’s Policy Unit
    Joe Stephenshaw, Consultant, Senate Budget Committee
    Scott Ogus, Consultant, Senate Budget Committee
    Agnes Lee, Policy Consultant, Assembly Speaker’s Policy Unit
    Christian Griffith, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
    Andrea Margolis, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
    Anthony Archie, Senate Republican Budget Committee
    Cyndi Hillery, Assembly Republican Budget Committee