



**Children  
Now®**



April 3, 2024

The Honorable Caroline Menjivar  
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3 on Health & Human Services  
1021 O Street, Room 6720  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program Transition – CONCERNS  
Hearing on April 4, 2024 – Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3**

Dear Senator Menjivar,

The undersigned organizations, representing California's local health departments, social services agencies, their workforce, and impacted children and families, write to provide preliminary comments on the Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS) transition of the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program.

Pursuant to SB 184 (Chapter 47, Statutes of 2022), CHDP will become inoperative and the Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC) will become a standalone program as of July 1, 2024, or the date that DHCS certifies all transition-related steps have been completed. SB 184 required DHCS to conduct an extensive stakeholder engagement process to inform a final transition plan.

DHCS issued its final transition plan and certification to stakeholders on March 29, 2024. While our organizations continue to review the state's final transition plan, we express concerns about the compressed timeline for local jurisdictions to effectuate necessary operational changes to ensure a seamless transition of the programs. Specifically, local health departments have just three months to effectively close out the CHDP Program and establish HCPCFC as a standalone program.

DHCS additionally at the end of March 2024 provided jurisdictions draft guidance documents for review for standalone HCPCFC effective July 1, 2024. Our coalition is concurrently reviewing this guidance and its potential impact on counties to transition HCPCFC as a standalone program, including any budgetary impacts that may need to be considered in the transition. Over the past weeks, our coalition has appreciated increased engagement with DHCS on this transition, including on areas related to funding methodology and program administration.

Notably, we continue to work to understand the Administration's proposed funding methodology for standalone HCPCFC. Our coalition respectfully requests that allocations to jurisdictions are adequate to support administrative functions that will be lost by the sunset of CHDP and flexible to meet unique staffing needs of our jurisdictions.

Our organizations remain committed to working with the Legislature and Administration to ensure a seamless transition of these programs while preserving local health department staff to support the health

of children and families in their communities. We would appreciate the opportunity to provide our collective feedback on the final transition plan and associated guidance documents after our organizations have sufficient time to fully review.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Respectfully,

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cc: Honorable Members, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3  
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