California SEIU

Developmental Disabilities Council

**Representing SEIU members from:**

**SEIU Local 1021**

Arc of San Francisco

Arc of Alameda County

Arc of Amador & Calaveras

Arc of Butte County

East Bay Innovations

California Autism Foundation

Mission Hope

Alta Regional Center

Far Northern Regional Center

North Bay Regional Center

Regional Center of the East Bay

Valley Mountain Regional Center

**SEIU Local 521**

San Andreas Regional Center

Hope Rehabilitation Services

Kern Regional Center

**SEIU Local 721**

Tri-Counties Regional Center

North L.A. County Regional Center

Harbor Regional Center

March 16, 2014

Honorable Ellen Corbett

Chair, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review

Subcommittee #3

State Capitol, Room 313

Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Department of Developmental Services -

Governor’s 2014-15 Proposed Budget

Dear Senator Corbett:

The Service Employee International Union (SEIU) of California, Developmental Disabilities Council, represents the direct service coordinators and support staff employed at 10 Regional Centers, and the direct care workers at 8 vendored agencies across the State. Our Union members serve about half of California’s over 260,000 people with Developmental Disabilities. We appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments on the Governor’s proposed Budget for 2014-15 for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS).

The Developmental Disabilities community has endured more than 30 years of budget saving measures (over 1 billion dollars cut in the past 5 years alone). As a result, our current system of service delivery is no longer sustainable. California is failing to keep the promise of The Lanterman Developmental Services Act for its Developmentally Disabled citizens. In order to move us towards system sustainability, we are in solidarity with the members of the Lanterman Coalition in asking for the re-investment changes outlined in their attached budget proposal.



Sincerely,

Eric Stern, MA

Chair SEIU DD Council

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| Senator Ellen Corbett, Chair Senate Sub 3 Room 313 | Assembly Member Shirley Weber, Chair Assembly Sub 1  Room 3126 |
| Senator Bill Monning, Senate Sub 3, Room 4066 | Assembly Member Wes Chesbro, Assembly Sub 1 Room 2141 |
| Senator Mimi Walters, Senate Sub 3, Room 3086 | Assembly Member Roger Dickinson, Assembly Sub 1  Room 2013 |
| Peggy Collins, Senate Consultant, LOB | Assembly Member Shannon Grove, Assembly Sub 1  Room 4208 |
| Kirk Feely, Senate Consultant, LOB 234 | Assembly Member Alan Mansoor, Assembly Sub 1 Room 4177 |
|  | Nicole Vazquez, Assembly Consultant, Room 6026 |
|  | Julie Souliere, Assembly Consultant, Room 6031 |