

Communication from Public

Name: Jenna Hauss

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Council File No: 26-0002-S25

Comments for Public Posting: Re: Council File 26-0002-S25 – Support for Resolution Opposing Changes to the California Department of Aging Intrastate Funding Formula Dear Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council: On behalf of ONEgeneration and the more than 10,000 older adults, family caregivers, and community members we serve annually throughout the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County, we respectfully urge your support for Council File 26-0002-S25. As one of the region's largest providers of aging and caregiver services, ONEgeneration witnesses every day the growing needs of older adults who rely on community-based programs to remain healthy, independent, and connected. These services include nutrition programs, caregiver support, transportation assistance, adult day services, health and wellness programs, and other critical resources that help older adults age with dignity in their own homes and communities. We are deeply concerned that the California Department of Aging's proposed revisions to the Intrastate Funding Formula would result in significant funding losses for Los Angeles. According to the resolution, the proposed formula would reduce direct funding to the City of Los Angeles by approximately 12 percent and contribute to a regional loss of more than \$6 million annually for aging services. The proposal would also place nearly 400,000 meals per year at risk for vulnerable older adults who depend on nutrition programs. Los Angeles is home to one of the largest and most diverse older adult populations in California. The City contains high concentrations of low-income seniors, older adults with disabilities, individuals with limited English proficiency, and family caregivers who already face significant barriers to accessing services. The proposed weighting for geographic isolation would disproportionately shift resources away from dense urban communities where the greatest numbers of older adults reside and where the demand for services continues to grow. At a time when the older adult population is rapidly increasing, and family caregivers are carrying extraordinary responsibilities, California should be strengthening investments in aging services, not reducing them. Any modernization of the funding formula should be developed through a transparent and collaborative process that meaningfully engages Area Agencies on Aging, service providers, older adults, caregivers, and local

governments. For the thousands of older adults and caregivers who depend on these programs every day, the stakes are simply too high. We respectfully ask the Los Angeles City Council to approve Council File 26-0002-S25 and send a strong message to the Governor and State Legislature that California's aging services funding formula must reflect where older adults actually live, the complexity of need in urban communities, and the importance of maintaining vital services for seniors and family caregivers. Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to supporting older adults and caregivers throughout Los Angeles. Sincerely, Jenna Hauss President & CEO ONEgeneration