

Communication from Public

Name: Los Angeles Coalition for Aging (LACA) by Ayako Utsumi

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Council File No: 26-0002-S25

Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles Coalition for Aging (LACA) is in full support of Councilman Blumenfield's resolution to oppose funding cuts to older adult services. We support the following resolution: the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its State Legislative Program, OPPOSITION of the proposed 2026-27 May Revision Budget Trailer Bill Language regarding the Intrastate Funding Formula Modernization and Implementation Authority for the California Department of Aging; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Los Angeles URGES the California State Legislature and the Governor to REJECT the 2026-27 May Revision Trailer Bill Language and require a transparent, collaborative legislative process to develop a new Intrastate Funding Formula that: 1. Eliminates or significantly reduces the 20 percent geographic isolation weighting factor that unfairly penalizes urban centers; and 2. Increases the base population factor weighting to properly reflect where the State's older adults actually live and where high-density need is concentrated. Attached is a letter from LACA to the CA State legislature budget committee to reject the 2026-27 May Revision Trailer Bill Language. Thank you.



May 18, 2026

The Honorable John Laird, Chair
Senate Budget Committee
1020 N Street, Suite 502
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jessie Gabriel, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Carolyn Menjivar, Chair
Senate Budget Sub-committee on Health
and Human Services
1020 N Street, Suite 502
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Corey Jackson, Chair
Assembly Budget Sub-committee on
Human Services
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Opposition to the Older Americans Act (OAA) Intrastate Funding Formula included in the California Department of Aging Trailer Bill

Dear Chairman Laird, Chairwoman Menjivar, Chairman Gabriel and Chairman Jackson,

The Los Angeles Coalition for Aging writes to express our opposition to the proposed changes to the Older Americans Act (OAA) Intrastate Funding Formula including in the California Department of Aging (CDA) trailer bill language. If the funding formula as currently written in the trailer bill is implemented, Los Angeles County and City Area Agencies on Aging will face over **\$6 million** in cuts, amounting to a combined loss of nearly one-quarter (**24%**) of local aging services funding, ***even though Los Angeles City and County together account for nearly a quarter of California's aging population.***

We were also disappointed by CDA's recent public comment process. Our ability to provide input was hampered by CDA's release of an updated funding formula during the public comment period, leaving just over a week to develop a response to a formula that resulted in a 12% decrease for the City of Los Angeles rather than the slight increase that would have been in place under the original proposal. This is simply not enough time for the City and relevant stakeholders to fully analyze and respond to a proposal with impacts of this magnitude.

Additionally, although the public comment period closed at 5:00 p.m. on May 12, the trailer bill language was released by Legislative Counsel at 4:06 p.m. **that same day**, retaining the 20% allocation structure across all categories. This timing strongly suggests that stakeholder feedback and public input were not meaningfully considered before finalizing the proposal language. Overall, this process has not reflected the coordination, transparency, and collaboration essential to ensuring that any redistribution of resources at

the scale currently proposed is done thoughtfully, minimizes harm, and strengthens the network's ability to meet the needs of California's most frail older adults.

The Los Angeles Coalition for Aging (LACA) is a coalition of senior service agencies serving thousands of older adults and caregivers across Los Angeles County through nutrition programs, adult day services, transportation, caregiver support, healthy aging initiatives, and culturally responsive community-based services. Every day, we witness firsthand the growing needs of older adults in Los Angeles City and County, particularly among low-income seniors, older adults experiencing housing instability, multilingual communities, and those aging alone without adequate support systems.

Los Angeles County is home to more than 2.1 million adults age 60 and older, representing one of the largest concentrations of older adults *in the nation*. Yet despite the scale and complexity of need in our region, the proposed funding formula changes would significantly reduce resources to Los Angeles. **These reductions would have devastating consequences for essential services that older adults rely on every day, including nutrition programs, caregiver support, transportation, case management, housing stability services, and culturally responsive care.**

We urge you to reject the funding formula included in the trailer bill and instead support a formula that prioritizes the State's most vulnerable older adults and better reflects where the greatest concentrations of need exist. We believe this can be accomplished by decreasing the geographic isolation weighting factor to **10%** and increasing the population factor to **30%**, helping ensure that older adults in urban communities do not experience a disproportionate loss of services while still recognizing the unique needs of rural regions.

Finally, there is no reason for the State to push through a new funding formula at this time. The Intrastate Funding Formula is not required to be updated until development of California's next State Plan on Aging, which is due to the Administration for Community Living in 2029. **We urge you to reject the budget trailer bill funding formula to allow time for a collaborative stakeholder process to occur.**

California's aging population is growing rapidly, and communities like Los Angeles County are at the center of that demographic shift. Now is the time to strengthen, **not weaken**, the network of community-based organizations that older adults depend upon every day. The proposed Intrastate Funding Formula does not move us in the right direction.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership on behalf of California's older adults. We welcome continued dialogue and stand ready to work collaboratively toward a fair and equitable outcome for all communities.

To contact LACA, please reach out to Ayako Utsumi, LACA consultant at autsumi@valonconsulting.com 213.300.3076 and www.agingla.org. Thank you for your

consideration. LACA stands ready to support a fair and effective outcome for the older adults we all serve.

Sincerely,

Los Angeles Coalition for Aging Steering Committee



LACA Steering Committee (Selected) Members listed above:

Chris Baca, Board Member, Meals on Wheels California (logo not shown)
Molly Davies, President and CEO, WISE & Healthy Aging
Darren Dunaway, Director, Human Services Association Los Angeles
Stephanie Galloway, President and CEO, Valley InterCommunity Council (VIC)
Peter Gee, Co-Executive Director, Little Tokyo Service Center
Jenna Hauss, President and CEO, ONEgeneration
Darlene M. Kiyan, President and CEO, St. Barnabas Senior Services (SBSS)
Barbra McLendon, Associate Vice President of Public Policy, Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles
Kiera Pollock, Director of Senior Services, Los Angeles LGBT Center
Yvonne Sun, Division Director, Special Service for Groups - SSG SILVER
Eli Veitzer, President and CEO, Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles