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April 23, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2636 (Bains), Modernization of the Older Californians Act – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Wicks,

I am writing on behalf of the Kern County Board of Supervisors to express our support for AB 2636 (Bains), which would modernize terms of use throughout the Older Californians Act (Act), repeal obsolete provisions, and update findings and declarations. Most importantly, the bill expands the intent of the Act and increases the flexibility necessary for the aging and disability network to develop and deliver community-based programs in a changing operating and policy context.

The Act was originally passed to augment the Older Americans Act by including programs available to older Californians and individuals living with disabilities that extended beyond those provided for in the Older Americans Act. As time passed much has changed, both in terms of the scope of available programs and the language used by aging service providers and policy makers to refer to the population served. This bill updates the Act in a number of ways to recognize that change. It expands the intent of the Act, helping to “evergreen” the Act in the process.

AB 2636 will allow the aging service delivery network to continue to expand service delivery to address the evolving needs of the people we serve and to achieve the goals of the Master Plan on Aging. For these reasons, the Kern County Board of Supervisors supports this legislation and respectfully requests that you vote **YES on AB 2636**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Couch", is written over a blue circular stamp.

David Couch, Chairman
Kern County Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Honorable Members, Kern Legislative Delegation
Kern Aging & Adult Services Department
Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange