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May 21, 2026

The Honorable John Laird  
Chair, Senate Budget Committee  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Caroline Menjivar  
Chair, Senate Budget  
Subcommittee No. 3  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel  
Chair, Assembly Budget  
Committee  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Corey Jackson  
Chair, Assembly Budget  
Subcommittee No. 2  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: California Commission on Aging Opposes May Revision Proposals  
Negatively Impacting Older Adults and People with Disabilities**

Dear Senators Laird and Menjivar and Assemblymembers Gabriel and Jackson,

The California Commission on Aging (CCoA) strongly opposes several proposals included in the Governor's May Budget Revision for Fiscal Year 2026–27. These proposals would significantly harm older adults and people with disabilities across California. The May Revision, in addition to the initial proposed budget in January, includes nearly \$1 billion in cuts to older adults' access to health and long-term services and supports.

**Medi-Cal Asset Limit**

First, the proposed reduction of the Medi-Cal asset limit to \$2,000 would reverse one of California's landmark Medi-Cal reforms. This proposal unfairly singles out older adults and people with disabilities enrolled in Medi-Cal by **reinstating an asset limit that does not apply to other Medi-Cal populations**. Asset limits disproportionately penalize low-income older adults and people with disabilities who live on extremely modest incomes, and have successfully saved more than \$2,000 for emergencies, burial expenses, housing stability, or basic financial security. Reinstating a restrictive asset test would force vulnerable Californians to spend down their safety net before



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qualifying for Medi-Cal, falling even deeper into poverty and risking homelessness. At a time when Californians face a rising cost of living and increasing economic insecurity, this proposal is detrimental to progress made in the last five years under the Governor's Master Plan for Aging. The administration estimates this proposal would result in about **62,000 people losing coverage** within the first two years.

### **Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly**

We are deeply concerned about proposed rate reductions for Programs for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), an unexpected and harmful departure from last year's budget agreement. PACE is one of California's most effective integrated care models, providing comprehensive medical, social, and long-term services and supports that allow medically complex older adults to remain in their homes, rather than enter costly institutional settings. These programs improve health outcomes, reduce hospitalizations, and prevent unnecessary nursing facility placement. Existing PACE funding is already inadequate to meet the need. About 90% of older adults in California who **qualify** for PACE —around 240,000 seniors—are **not** being served. PACE organizations have already been preparing for the significant financial impact associated with the midpoint cap introduced in the January budget. Imposing additional cuts creates instability and uncertainty for providers serving California's highest at-risk older adult population.

### **Adult Protective Services**

Finally, the proposal to raise the eligibility age for Adult Protective Services (APS) services from 60 to 65 would leave thousands of vulnerable Californians without access to critical protections against abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and exploitation. Adults between the ages of 60 and 64 frequently face serious physical, cognitive, and financial vulnerabilities and are often isolated and at heightened risk of harm. Additionally, the APS program is the entryway to the Home Safe Program, a crucial, and successful program, serving older adults experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness. Older adults are the fastest growing unhoused population in California. Delaying access to APS intervention until age 65 creates a dangerous service gap at precisely the moment early intervention can prevent crises, homelessness, hospitalization, and even death.

California's older adult population is growing rapidly, and the need for accessible healthcare, community-based supports, and protective services will only increase in the years ahead. The State has made important commitments through the Master Plan for Aging and other initiatives to build a California for All Ages and Abilities. The proposals outlined above are



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inconsistent with those commitments and risk shifting greater human and financial costs onto families, local governments, healthcare systems, and emergency services.

We respectfully urge the legislature to reject these May Revision proposals and protect the health, safety, and economic security of older adults and people with disabilities throughout California.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Lindeman".

David Lindeman  
Chair, California Commission on Aging

cc: Joe Stephenshaw, Director, California Department of Finance