



April 10, 2023

The Honorable Corey Jackson
Chair, Assembly Human Services Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 6120
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 262 (Holden): Children's camps: regulation
As Amended March 15, 2023 – SUPPORT
Set for Hearing April 18, 2023 – Assembly Human Services Committee

Dear Assembly Member Jackson:

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Urban Counties of California (UCC), Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), and the County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC), we write in SUPPORT of AB 262 by Assembly Member Chris Holden, which would direct the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to establish a statewide workgroup to develop regulations pertaining to child safety at children's camps.

Previous legislative proposals relating to children's camps have inappropriately assigned responsibility to local health departments (LHDs) – which exist to protect communities from public health threats, like COVID-19 – to regulate child supervision and safety at children's camps. CHEAC has long advocated that children's camps in California should be regulated by an agency with the applicable training and expertise in child supervision and safety.

AB 262 sets out a process, led by CDSS, to engage with other relevant state agencies, such as the California Department of Public Health and the California Department of Education, as well as stakeholders such as children's camps representatives, parent advocate groups, and local public health and environmental health departments, to gather information and develop a plan to establish child supervision requirements, physical facility standards, and camp licensure and regulatory requirements, among others. This process will identify the appropriate agencies and/or entities, with applicable expertise, to ensure children's safety and supervision when attending these day camps.

CDSS is well suited to lead this process given their expertise in regulating facilities that provide care to children, including childcare facilities and children's residential care facilities.

Our organizations believe ensuring children's safety while attending day camps is paramount and that it is vital for an entity with appropriate expertise oversees their operation. AB 262 is the first step towards achieving that goal. For the above reasons, the undersigned representatives of our organizations strongly SUPPORT AB 262.

Thank you,



Jolie Onodera
Senior Legislative Advocate
California State Association of Counties
(CSAC)



Kelly Brooks-Lindsey
Urban Counties of California (UCC)



Sarah Dukett
Legislative Advocate
Rural County Representatives of California
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Michelle Gibbons
Executive Director
County Health Executives Association of
California (CHEAC)

cc: The Honorable Members, Assembly Human Services Committee
The Honorable Chris Holden, California State Assembly
Alexandria Smith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Human Services Committee
Eric Dietz, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus