



March 26, 2024

The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil
Chair, Senate Committee on Human Services
1021 O Street, Suite 7240
Sacramento, CA
95814

**RE: SB 1107 (DURAZO) AS INTRODUCED
FEBRAURY 13, 2024 - OPPOSE**

Dear Senator Alvarado-Gil:

On behalf of the County Welfare Directors Association of California (CWDA) and the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we respectfully oppose SB 1107 by Senator Durazo. This bill requires county human services agencies to implement a program by which homeless individuals could receive government-related mail at a physical location to be designated by the agency. The program would be optional for participants, but counties would be required to provide participants information about the program including hours of operation.

Providing a mail service for homeless individuals presents significant and costly operational challenges. County human services agencies would be required to sort and process large volumes of mail, ensuring privacy, maintaining security, and managing forwarded or returned mail. This is no small undertaking, and would require funding for additional dedicated county staff, additional space for mail collection and sorting, as well as the mailboxes themselves, and adequate security, especially for the large urban counties that have tens of thousands of homeless individuals. The proposed program would also increase liability claims for lost, misplaced, or delayed mail resulting in additional costs to counties.

While some county human services agencies offer limited mail services to for clients of the county programs to receive communication for the programs in which the client participates, this bill requires county human services agencies to provide mail services for all government mail to all homeless individuals in the county, regardless of whether the individual is a current client. Given the serious fiscal challenges that exist at all levels of government, county human services agencies do not have the financial, staffing, or structural capacity to undertake these significant new mandates.

For these reasons, CWDA and RCRC respectfully oppose SB 1107.

Sincerely,



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