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March 8, 2016

Kansen Chu, Chair  
Assembly Human Services Committee  
State Capitol, Room 5175  
Sacramento, CA 95814

REG: Support of AB-1797, IHSS Applicant Confirmation Number

Dear Assemblymember Chu:

The California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) supports Assembly Bill 1797 (Lackey-Weber) which would require that an IHSS applicant get a confirmation number when they complete an IHSS application over the telephone.

CICA is a member organization with 24 California County In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Advisory Committees and Governing Boards represented. Our mandate under State Law is to give recommendations to all County and State organizations having any impact on the IHSS Program.

Current law is silent on the right of an IHSS applicant to file an IHSS. Only §12301.15 mentions in passing about an IHSS beneficiary application.

In order to receive the IHSS services an elderly, disabled or blind person must make an application for IHSS. Just about every county requires that the application be done telephonically. Sometimes the elderly and disabled make an application that gets lost in the system.

This has been a major issue for advocates representing IHSS recipients throughout the state for several years.

There is an application form known as [SOC 295](#). The IHSS beneficiary is asked to sign the SOC 295 when the social worker goes to the applicant's house for an assessment.

Advocates have recommended that the county provide applicants with a confirmation number when applying telephonically.

California IHSS Consumer Alliance supports AB 1797 would provide that any person, who needs in-home supportive services to avoid being placed in a nursing home, shall have the right to apply for services in-person or by telephone and receive a confirmation number for the application when applying by phone. This bill allows the counties to use the currently issued case number as a confirmation number.

Furthermore, this bill would also require that an IHSS application be acted upon within 30 days. We urge your "Aye" vote.

Sincerely,

CHARLES BEAN  
Executive Director

cc:

Honorable Tom Lackey, California State Assembly (Author)

Honorable Dr. Shirley Weber, California State Assembly (Author)

Antione Hage, Office of Assembly Member Lackey

Marcus McKinney, Office of Assembly Member Dr. Weber

Kevin Aslanian, Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations  
(Sponsor)