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3050 Lake Tahoe Blvd  
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July 16, 2012

Board of Supervisors  
County of El Dorado  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667

**Re: Letter of Support of a Caregivers Permit Ordinance**

The EDC Commission on Aging supports passage of a Caregivers Permit Ordinance for El Dorado County.

We feel older adults should be safe and secure in their own home. Statistics reveal that many older Americans are exploited, injured or mistreated by people they depend upon for care and assistance. The Commission on Aging would like to keep elders and dependent adults safe and secure when they hire caregivers to help them with daily living activities.

We urge the adoption of a Caregiver Ordinance that requires individual caregivers to pass a background check and obtain an annual permit before working as a caregiver in someone's home. Individuals could insist that the caregiver they hire has a valid photo ID permit every year.

Caregiver permits improve the safety and reduce abuse of older adults. It will give families a starting point when hiring a caregiver. The Permit will mean the caregiver has passed a background screening process at a minimum and that they have paid a fee to obtain that permit. The passage of a Caregiver's Permit Ordinance will ensure that vulnerable elders and disabled are safe in their homes.

We support a plan to create and adopt the Caregiver's Permit ordinance because it is in line with goals for public health, safety, quality of life, and assurance of trusted caregiver.

The Commission on Aging and all older adults thanks you.

Sincerely,

*Vicki Ludwig*  
Vicki Ludwig (Divittorio)  
Past Chair and Current Vice Chair 2012