AB 1250 Is An Attack on Services for the Most Vulnerable

Assembly Bill 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) would impose a de facto prohibition on counties' ability to contract with nonprofits, licensed experts and community businesses to deliver vital local services. AB 1250 is a transparent political power grab that will jeopardize local services for California's most vulnerable people and increase costs for taxpayers.

Prohibition of contracting for county services will jeopardize health care, social services, mental health and public safety services for our most vulnerable.

AB 1250 imposes significant new restrictions and layers of bureaucracy designed to stop counties from contracting with nonprofits, licensed professionals and other providers for local services. Restricting counties' ability to contract for the expertise and the most efficient delivery of services would result in decreased quality and access to services or even the elimination of some services for our most vulnerable, such as:

- Safe havens and counseling for children who are victims of sex trafficking
- Counseling and support for victims of domestic violence
- Medical care and case management for children with special health care needs
- 9-1-1 and emergency dispatch
- Homeless outreach and case management emergency shelters, warming and cooling shelters
- Foster care and adoption services
- Behavioral health services

- Timely emergency and disaster response
- Medical care at county safety-net hospitals and clinics
- Job-training and employment support for the unemployed
- Immigration legal support services
- Health care, jobtraining and rehabilitation for county inmates and probation
- Private ambulance services
- Sober living and rehabilitation services

AB 1250 Will Increase Costs for Taxpayers and Reduce Funding for Local Services.

Restricting counties' ability to provide services in the most cost-effective manner will increase costs for taxpayers and reduce funding available for other local services. AB 1250 also imposes significant new bureaucratic requirements on contractors and counties, which will further divert resources away from the delivery of vital local services.

AB 1250 is a Transparent Political Power Play... at the Expense of our Most Vulnerable.

There is no legitimate policy problem that AB 1250 seeks to address. This is a pure political power play at the expense of vital services for our most vulnerable. For instance, AB 1250 requires that private nonprofits and businesses publicly release the names, information and salary data of all private employees providing contracting services (raising significant privacy concerns). Furthermore, the bill now only applies to counties – other local governments were amended out to secure passage in the Assembly. It's clear AB 1250 is about brazen politics at the expense of good policy and services for our most vulnerable.

