



22225 FOOTHILL BOULEVARD
HAYWARD, CA 94501

ACA Legislative Committee Agenda

Monday, April 6, 2026

11:00AM – 12:00PM

NEW LOCATION: In Person: 22225 Foothill Blvd. Hayward, CA 94541

The public is also welcome to [participate online](#) or call (888) 715-8170, Meeting ID 977472625# (US, Toll Free)

For questions or connection issues, contact Kim Fogel, krfogel@acgov.org, (510) 577-3536

Agenda Item	Material Provided	Presenter	Time(all times approximate)
Welcome/Call to order		Commission Chair or staff	11-11:05
Approve minutes	Draft minutes March 6, 2026	Commissioners	11:05-11:10
Committee Chair report		Commissioner Schinkel-Kludjian	11:10-11:15
Update on PAL process for HCP funding proposal. (Tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 6 at 1:30; public comment permitted)	PAL Agenda (if ready). Template letter of support	Kim Fogel, Commissioners	11:15-11:25
Legislative Updates and possible action items to consider C4A legislative recommendations	C4A recommendations	Commissioners, AAA Staff	11:25 – 11:40
Announcements/Topics for next agenda		Commissioners	11:40 – 11:45

Adjourn		All	11:45
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Attachments:

Minutes from March meeting

Template letter of support for HCP funding proposal

C4A recommendations

PAL Agenda (will be provided when issued by Clerk of the Board)

From: Christina Mills <Christina@c4a.info>

Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 2:55 PM

Subject: Vote: Review and Vote on Legislative Committee Recommendations

Hi Members & Alternates,

It was great seeing many of you at the Board meeting this morning. As a follow-up to our legislative discussion, I am sharing the C4A Legislative Committee's recommended positions on a set of bills brought forward by various aging and disability coalition partners and authors' offices.

The Committee reviewed a broader set of bills and has thoughtfully narrowed its recommendations to those listed below. They are recommending that C4A support these bills.

Those of you on the Legislative Committee do not need to vote again. If you are not a member of the Legislative Committee, please take a few minutes to review the recommended bills and cast your vote.

Based on the final voting results, C4A will submit letters of support and/or provide "me too" comments at upcoming legislative hearings, as appropriate. These bills are in addition to our proactive OCA budget request and SB 1261 ADRC bill.

Each PSA gets one vote. Please vote by COB Monday, 3/30/26.

The Legislative Committee is recommending that C4A support the following list of bills:

SB 1149 (Durazo) [Bereavement Leave to Include Chosen Family](#)

Vote Question: Should C4A support SB 1149 (Durazo)?

Support

Oppose

Neutral

AB 2324 (Gonzales) [Youth Caregivers Career Pathway Program](#)

Vote Question: Should C4A support AB 2324 (Gonzales)?

Support

Oppose

Neutral

AB 2135 (Kalra) [Nursing Home Eviction Protections](#) - sponsored by CLTCOA and CANHR

The committee did discuss this and wasn't sure about taking a position at the time of the meeting (Fact sheet attached, in case the link doesn't work)

Vote Question: Should C4A take a position on AB 2135?

Support

Oppose

Neutral

SB 991 (Menjivar) [Elder Abuse Accountability](#) - sponsored by CLTCOA

The committee did discuss this and wasn't sure about taking a position at the time of the meeting (Fact sheet attached, in case the link doesn't work)

Vote Question: Should C4A take a position on SB 991?

Support
Oppose
Neutral

AB 2081 (Stefani) [Medi-Cal: Home and Community-Based Alternatives Waiver](#) - Sponsored by a coalition of aging and disability organizations

Vote Question: Should C4A take a position on SB 2081?

Support
Oppose
Neutral

AB 1649 (Ahrens) [Medi-Cal: Monthly Maintenance Amount: Personal and Incidental Needs](#) - No sponsor listed

Vote Question: Should C4A take a position on AB 1649?

Support
Oppose
Neutral

SB 1249 (Richardson) [Senior Tax Liability](#) - No sponsor listed (Fact sheet attached, in case the link doesn't work)

Vote Question: Should C4A take a position on SB 1249?

Support
Oppose
Neutral

Christina N. Mills (she/her)
Executive Director

California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A)
(916)838-6472



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Click “Enable Editing”, to edit; make sure to change file name to include org. name & save.
Add Your Letterhead and edit all areas highlighted in yellow. Delete these instructions. Thank you for your support!

March [REDACTED], 2026

Honorable Dawn Addis
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 1
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 8210
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for FY 2026–27 Budget Request – \$8,325,000 One-Time General Fund for the Healthcare Career Pathway (CNA Workforce Initiative)

Dear Chair Addis,

On behalf of [Organization Name], I am writing to express our strong support for the request that **\$8,325,000 in General Fund support be allocated over five years in the FY 2026–27 State Budget** to sustain and expand the Healthcare Career Pathway (HCP) Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Workforce Initiative.

California continues to face a significant shortage of CNAs and entry-level healthcare workers across long-term care, hospital, and residential care settings. These workforce shortages contribute to delayed hospital discharges, limited long-term care capacity, and increasing strain across the healthcare system—particularly as the state’s aging population grows. The California Department of Aging estimates that **one in four Californians will be age 60 or older by 2030**, further increasing the need for a stable direct care workforce.

The Healthcare Career Pathway program is a proven workforce development model designed to recruit, train, and retain individuals with addressable barriers to employment and connect them to stable, living-wage healthcare careers. The program currently operates across Alameda, Contra Costa, Lake, Mendocino, Sonoma, and Kern counties, aligning CNA training cohorts with regional employer demand and workforce projections.

HCP’s success is driven by its comprehensive approach that pairs state-approved CNA training and certification preparation with wraparound supports and 1:1 case management that help participants complete the program and successfully enter the workforce. In addition to covering tuition, textbooks, uniforms, and supplies, these supports include transportation assistance, food resources, childcare and emergency stipends, case management, academic navigation, and direct connections to community resources and employer partners.

The program has demonstrated strong outcomes. As of February 2026, statewide data show:

- **88.3%** program completion rate (program length ranges from 7 to 14 weeks)
- **92.2%** CNA certification pass rate within six months of graduation
- **75.5%** employment within six months of graduation

These results demonstrate that the HCP model successfully expands access to healthcare careers while strengthening California’s direct care workforce pipeline.

[INSERT PARAGRAPH – ORGANIZATION CONNECTION]

Please describe your organization’s role in the aging, healthcare, workforce development, or community services field

and how the Healthcare Career Pathway program supports your work, the populations you serve, or California's healthcare workforce.

Without continued state investment, pilot funding for the HCP CNA Workforce Initiative provided by the California Department of Health Care Access and Information will sunset on June 30, 2026. Sustained funding will strengthen California's frontline healthcare workforce, expand care capacity across long-term care and hospital systems, and create economic mobility for Californians entering healthcare careers. Continued support will allow the HCP model to maintain training cohorts, sustain employer partnerships, and increase the number of Certified Nursing Assistants entering the workforce in high-need regions.

For these reasons, **[Organization Name]** respectfully urges your support of this FY 2026–27 budget request to sustain and expand the Healthcare Career Pathway CNA Workforce Initiative.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title]

[Organization]



22225 FOOTHILL BOULEVARD
HAYWARD, CA 94501

ACA Legislative Committee Minutes

Friday, March 6, 2026

11:00AM – 12:00PM

Virtual Meeting

Prepared by Kim Fogel,

krfogel@acgov.org or

(510) 577-3536

Present: Committee Chair John Schinkel-Kludjian, Commissioner Helen Mayfield, Commissioner Dori Ellis.

Staff: AAA Director Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, AAA Management Analyst Kim Fogel

Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome/Call to order	Former Committee Chair Barbara Price has resigned from the commission. Commissioner Schinkel-Kludjian is the new Legislative Committee chair. Committee chairs are appointed by the Chair of the Commission.
Approve minutes from February 2026 Committee meeting	Approved
<p>PRESENTATION: Engaging the PAL Process. (See attached).</p> <p>Charles Balderama Sanchez, Management Analyst, Social Services Agency – Government and Community Relations (GCR) Department.</p> <p>Amritpal Gill, Management Analyst, Social Services Agency – Adult and Aging Services (AAS)</p>	<p>Personnel, Administration, and Legislation Committee – known as PAL – is a committee of the Board of Supervisors.</p> <p>The Presentation walked commissioners through the process of requesting that the County take an official position on proposed legislation. He will also add Area Agency on Aging to his department’s email list.</p> <p>Bills are usually introduced in September.</p> <p>Charles and Amritpal noted that Social Services is preparing a “PAL” request to support a proposal for the state to continue funding the Health Care Career Pathways (HCP) program. The program helps address the state’s shortage of Certified Nursing Assistants for older and disabled adults by training and assisting motivated but disadvantaged job seekers. Alameda County’s HCP program, a partnership won a national award last summer.</p>

<p>Updates and possible action items to consider</p>	<p>Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, AAA Director, updated the committee on key state policies and legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 1249 (Modernization of Older Californians Act). Passage of this legislation has led to the state's reviewing structures and landscapes of all of its Area Agencies on Aging. AAAs are facing increasing accountability for funding. Decisions once based on density of older adult population alone are now taking performance and claiming into account. AAA's visibility and public recognition are increasingly important. <p>Top federal and state policy priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information and Assistance/Aging and Disability Resource Connections • Family Caregiver support; and • Nutrition services <p>Staff and commissioners also reviewed updates from Justice in Aging on Federal-level proposals for immigration, housing, and nursing home staffing.</p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	

Attachment: PAL Presentation



AREA AGENCY ON AGING CSL UPDATE

March 2026

- **2026 Legislative Priorities**

The following are our legislative proposals have been authored by legislators:

Budget Request: (SP-1) Medi-Cal Personal Needs – Authored by ASM Ahrens

(Senior Senator Helen Lopez, El Centro, CA) MPA Goal # 2

This measure would increase the personal needs allowance from \$35 to \$50 per month and require that the amount be increased annually up to the amount of any cost-of-living adjustment implemented by the United States Social Security Administration.

SB 971: (SP-2) Older Adult Education: Local Public Health Departments - Authored by Sen Choi

(Senior Senator Steve Lipson, El Cerrito, CA) MPA Goal #3

This measure authorizes local Public Health Departments to establish older adult education programs that include, among other things, communal meals and instruction in digital literacy and access to technology, fall prevention and physical activity.

SB 1095: (AP-2): Personal Income Tax: Senior Child Care Tax Credit - Authored by Sen Dahle

(Senior Assembly Member Mark Cox, Yucaipa, CA) MPA Goal # 5

This measure establishes an income tax credit for qualifying seniors of \$2,500 for each claimed dependent under 18 years of age.

AB 1819 (AP-4): Automatic External Defibrillators - Authored by ASM Sanchez

(Senior Assembly Member Milissa Meyer, Indian Wells, CA) MPA Goal #2

This measure requires a senior center or community center providing activities to 50 or more people who are 55 years of age or older, to obtain and maintain an Automatic External Defibrillator.

We are also sponsoring **AB 1359: Jury Service Exemptions - authored by ASM Aherns** which will enable Californians over the age of 80 to seek a permanent excuse from jury duty without a supporting letter, memorandum or note from a treating health care provider.

- **2025 Legislative Priorities**

SB 1002 (AP-1) Out-State Physicians and Surgeons: Telehealth: License Exemption - Authored by Sen Niello which would also include within the definition of “eligible patient” a patient whose immediately life-threatening disease or condition is in remission and the patient is continuing care with the previously established eligible out-of-state physician and surgeon, and would provide that those patients are not subject to the clinical trial requirement, as specified.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING CSL UPDATE (cont'd)

- **CSL Elections**

Applicants are to submit their application package through their Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Office NLT March 31, 2026. Each AAA will conduct an election in May 2026. Elected CSL members will be sworn in at the October Annual Session.

CSL Election Timeline

CSL Applications due to your Area Agency on Aging (AAA) representative	March 31, 2026
AAA's forwards CSL applications to CSL Hqs via CSL drop box	NLT April 6, 2026
Review of applications by CSL Hqs and issuance of Certificates of Eligibility to AAA's	NLT April 30, 2026
CSL Elections conducted by each AAA	May/June 2026

Charles Balderama Sanchez

Management Analyst



Engaging the PAL Process

A PRESENTATION TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY Advisory Commission on Aging | February 9, 2026
GOVERNMENT & COMMUNITY RELATIONS | OFFICE OF POLICY, STRATEGY & INNOVATION (PSI)

About the Office of Policy, Strategy, and Innovation (PSI)

- Office of PSI Vision & Mission
- What is the PAL Committee?
- Engaging the PAL Process through the Office of PSI

Office of Policy, Strategy & Innovation

Who We Are: The Office of Policy, Strategy & Innovation (PSI) provides fund development, legislative and budget analysis, and decision-making support resources for the Social Services Agency.

Vision: Equitable and inclusive policies uplift the social and economic well-being of individuals, children and families.

Mission: To build informed and responsive systems through strong partnerships that support a resilient Alameda County.



What is the PAL committee?

- Key standing committee of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors
- They review federal, state, and local legislation referred by County departments and Board offices
- Determine whether the County should **support or oppose** legislative and administrative matters
- Review and sign all **official County letters** of support or opposition
- Review and recommend approval of the County's **legislative platform and priorities**
- Advance recommended positions to the **Board of Supervisors for final approval**
- Receive regular updates from state and federal legislative advocates on emerging issues
- Provide direction to advocates on advancing the County's legislative agenda

How Alameda County Establishes an Official Position

Bills Introduced by the State Legislature

PSI Drafts PAL Letters with Departments and submits to PAL

CWDA Review & Guidance

PAL Committee Review

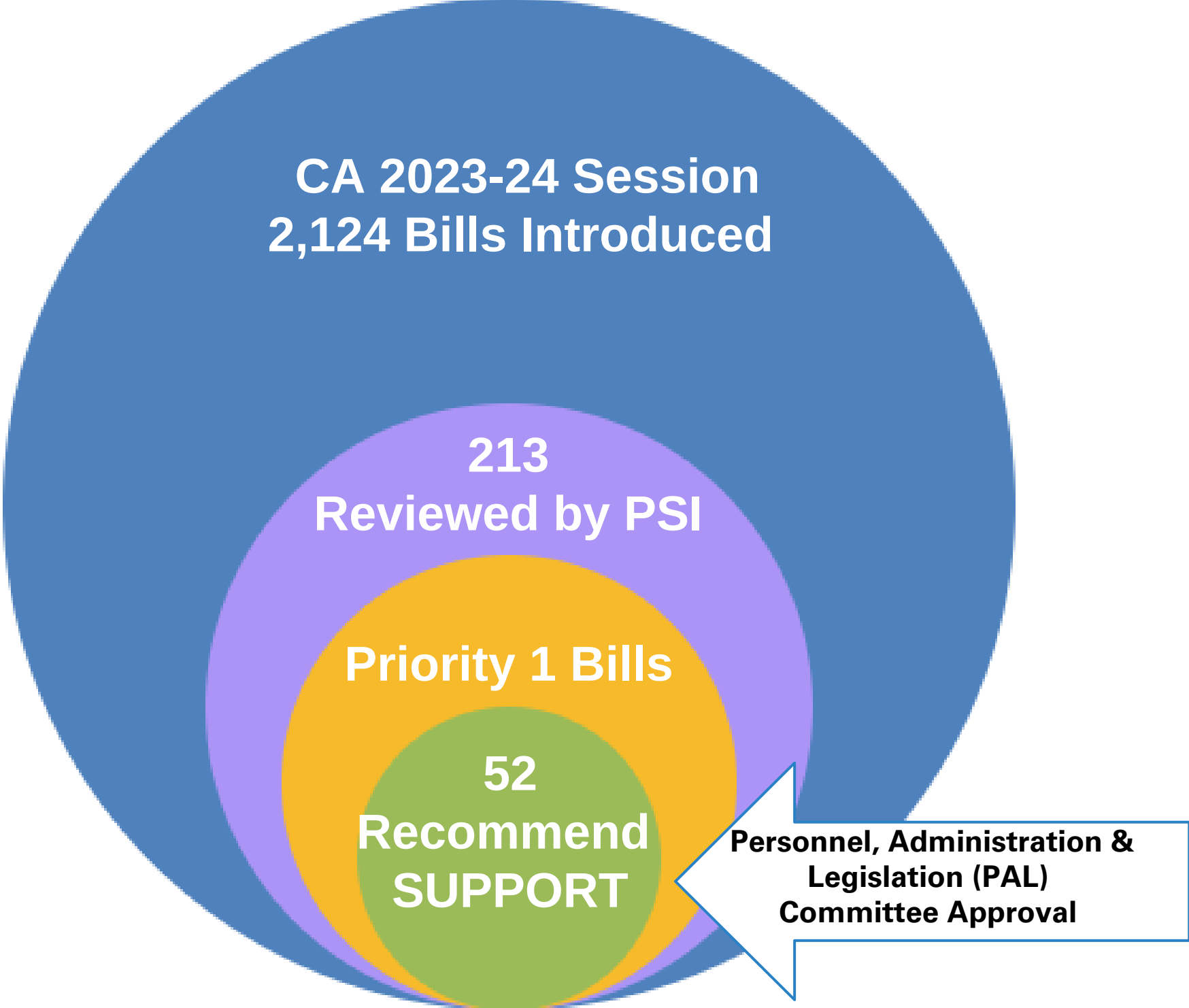
SSA & PSI Policy Review

Board of Supervisors Action

Department-Initiated Requests

Official County Position

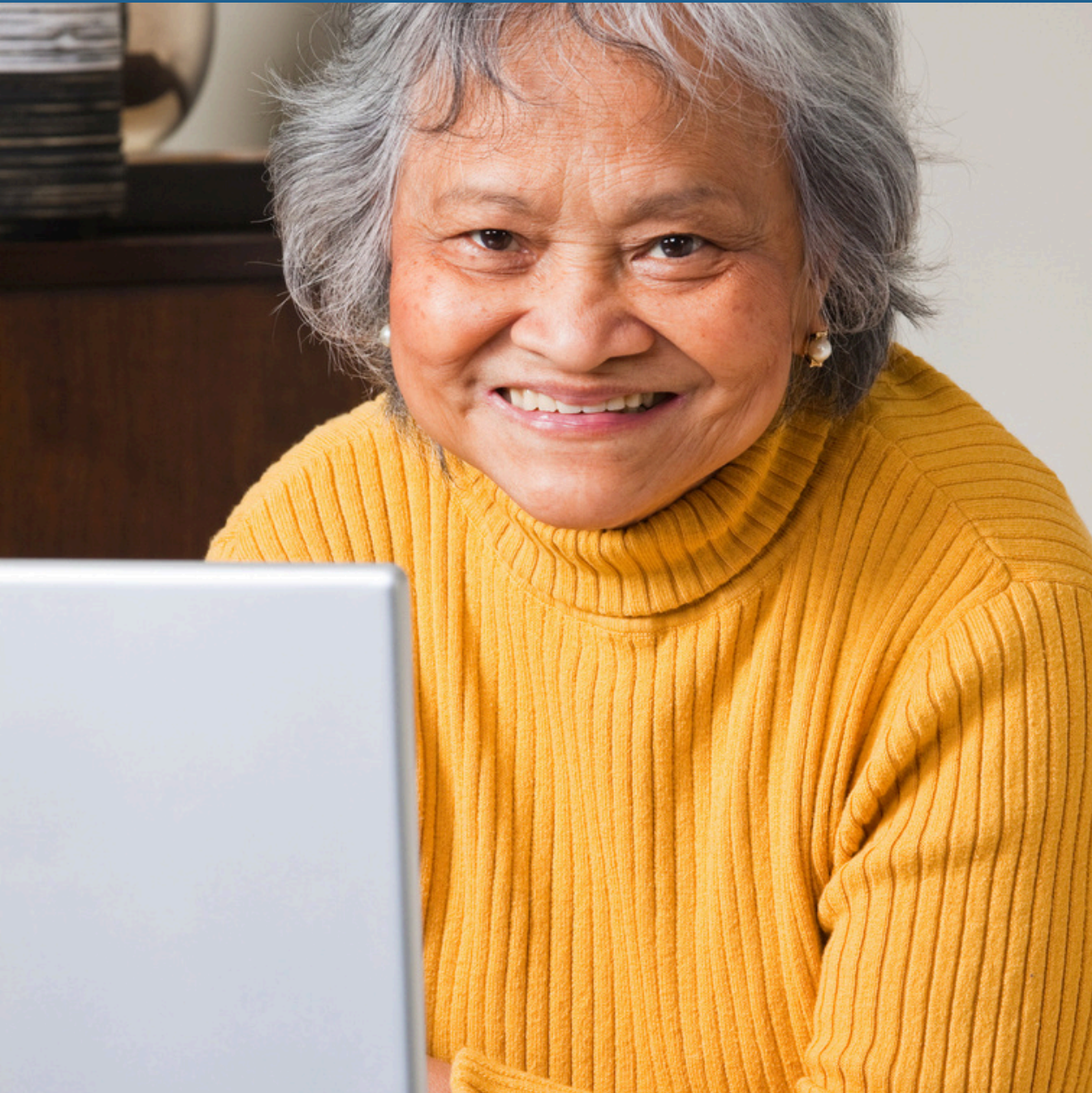
Office of PSI: Legislative Policy & Budget Analysis 2023-24 Session



Engaging the PAL Process Through the Office of PSI

- Councils and commissions interested in requesting the County take an official position on proposed state or federal legislation may submit their advisory opinion to the Personnel, Administration, and Legislation (PAL) Committee, via the SSA's Office of Policy, Strategy, and Innovation (PSI)
- Elements to include:
 - Recommendation - requires a vote/action by the full commission
 - Bill number and author
 - Alignment with County Vision
 - Social and fiscal impacts
 - Programmatic implications
 - Requested action
 - Additional materials - such as information on the bill or advocacy letters written by other organizations
 - Letter stating the commission's advisory position to the PAL Committee – approved by action item at regularly noticed meeting (Optional)

Thank You



Contact:

Charles Balderama Sanchez

Email:

Charles.BalderamaSanchez@acgov.org

Phone: (510) 406-0707



**Alameda County
Social Services Agency**
A safety net. A way forward.