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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**SOLANO
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May 17, 2023

The Honorable John Garamendi
United States House of Representatives
2004 Rayburn HOB
Washington D.C. 20515**RE: OPPOSE, H.R. 2811, Medicaid Requirements in the Limit, Save and Grow Act of 2023**

Dear Representative Garamendi,

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I write in opposition to a Medicaid provision in the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023 (H.R. 2811) which would require most single individuals between the ages of 19 and 56 to work at least 80 hours per month or complete 80 hours of community service per month. Such a requirement will be administratively burdensome for counties to track participation and for Medicaid participants who are likely to lose coverage because they could not navigate and complete the documentation requirements.

According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), about 15 million individuals nationwide would be subject to the provision, with about 1.5 million losing federal funding for their coverage. Of those 1.5 million individuals, CBO estimates that about 900,000 of them would retain coverage because states and/or counties would backfill the loss of the federal contribution. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) estimates that nearly 4.1 million Californians would be potentially subject to the requirements, including 38,488 Solano County residents.

These above estimates demonstrate the potential administrative and financial impact on our County, and more importantly, the potential loss of health coverage for thousands of our residents. States that have adopted similar requirements for their Medicaid participants have had disastrous results. Arkansas's short-lived work program resulted in the loss of coverage for nearly one in four adults, with no increase in employment, according to a September 2019 study published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Solano County provides an array of services to support individuals who face barriers to employment. Mandating an unproven, administratively burdensome work requirement on governments and individuals alike that will likely result in the loss of health coverage is not a solution. For those reasons, Solano County opposes the Medicaid work provision in the bill.

Thank you for your attention to our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John M. Vasquez".

John M. Vasquez, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors

Honorable John Garamendi

May 17, 2022

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CC:

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator

The Honorable Alex Padilla, U.S. Senator

The Honorable Mike Thompson, U.S. Representative

The Honorable Bill Dodd, CA State Senator

The Honorable Lori D. Wilson, CA State Assemblymember

The Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors

Bela Matyas, M.D., M.P.H. Solano County Health Officer

Gerald Huber, Director, Solano Health and Social Services

Joe Krahn, Tom Joseph, Hasan Sarsour, Paragon Government Relations

Karen Lange, SYASL Partners