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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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November 1, 2022

The Honorable Alex Padilla
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: SUPPORT – Clinic’s ability to bill physical and mental health services on the same day

Dear Senator Padilla:

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I write to request that you support a provision in the Senate Finance Committee’s bipartisan discussion draft to improve access to children’s physical and mental health. Specifically, the draft contains a provision amending Medicaid to allow clinics to provide both primary care and mental health services on the same day.

The Solano County Family Health Services Health Centers operate a network of Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHC) which serve 19,741 patients annually. Due to an anomaly in the Medicaid statute, our providers are not able to be reimbursed for two different services provided on the same day. The provision in the Senate draft would eliminate this barrier to coordinated care by allowing our providers to receive Medicaid reimbursement for behavioral and physical health services delivered to adults and children on the same day. The provision will help us better treat our patients since we operate both primary and behavioral health clinics and want to treat them for both needs on the same day, rather than encouraging them to return on another day for the other service. It recognizes that behavioral and physical health are intertwined and must be treated as such.

This provision is Section 106 of the June 15, 2022 Senate Finance Committee discussion draft (page 21). This common-sense provision has been long supported by the Solano County Board of Supervisors.

If you have any questions or if you need additional information, please contact Tom Joseph, Solano County Washington Representative, at (202) 449-0398 or TJ@ParagonLobbying.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John M. Vasquez", written over a circular stamp or seal.

John M. Vasquez,
District 4 Supervisor and Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors

CC:

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator
The Honorable John Garamendi, U.S. Representative
The Honorable Mike Thompson, U.S. Representative
The Solano County Legislative Delegation

Solano County Board of Supervisors
Jerry Huber, Director, H&SS, Solano County
Karen Lange, Legislative Advocate, SYASL Partners, Inc.