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September 10, 2019

The Honorable Phil Ting
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
State Capitol, Room 6015
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
State Capitol, Room 5019
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 109 and SB 109 – Budget Act of 2019 – Support

Dear Chair Ting and Chair Mitchell,

On behalf of West County Community Services, I write to you to express our strong support for AB 109 and SB 109. These bills include critically needed funding for the County of Sonoma's ongoing recovery efforts from the 2019 Russian River Flood. West County Community Services (WCCS) played the lead role in housing or rehousing more than 120 families following this year's catastrophic flood.

In February of 2019, Sonoma County was hit with devastating storms prompting the worst flood disaster in almost 25 years. The Russian River ultimately crested at 45.4 feet, 13 feet above flood level, damaging or destroying over 2,500 homes and businesses and local roads.

The County's support, including the curbside pickup and the collective resources provided by the Local Assistance Center was instrumental in local residents recovering from this historic flood disaster. County support was critical in assisting non-profits such as WCCS in meeting the housing, emotional and health needs of our impacted community. Much more work needs to be done.

We strongly request your support of this critical funding in AB 109 and SB 109. It is necessary for the continued recovery of our community.

Sincerely,

Tim Miller
Executive Director