



July 12, 2015

The Honorable Senator Robert M. Hertzberg
California State Capitol, Room 4038
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 405 (Hertzberg) Driving Debt Down (Amended July 7, 2015)

Dear Senator Hertzberg,

The California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) strongly supports SB 405 (Hertzberg) Driving Debt Down, which would reduce the number of persons having their driver's license suspended for violations that don't affect public safety. It would provide a method for persons with a current suspension due to a nonviolent offense to get their driving privileges restored.

The California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance is committed to improving and enhancing the lives of all those who use and provide In-Home Supportive Services. CICA is a non-profit 501(3)(c) corporation and has a membership of 25 counties throughout California representing recipients and care providers who depend on long-term care services to remain in their own homes.

Care providers having the ability to serve their clients through having their ability to drive to and from doctor's visits and other tasks approved is important. The loss of the ability to drive is a threat to economic security and hardship to care providers who care for our most vulnerable population the elderly and people with disabilities. Care providers are often called upon to drive clients to medical appointments and shopping in communities with

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limited public transportation systems both daily and weekly. By imposing fees that cannot be paid and effectively creating permanent license suspensions, the system is increasing crime, decreasing public safety, and endangering individual lives.

SB 405 would restore drivers licenses suspended as a result of nonviolent offenses, upon agreement that court-ordered debt be collected in conjunction with the Governor's proposed Traffic Amnesty program.

We are happy to support a bill that would revitalize economic security and support care providers in serving the needs of their clients by restoring driver's licenses suspended due to non-public safety violations.

Thank you for introducing this important measure.

Sincerely,

Charles Bean

CHARLES BEAN
Executive Director