

March 5, 2020

The Honorable Tom Daly, Chair Assembly Insurance Committee 1020 N Street, Room 369 Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 1993 (Kamlager) – Support

Dear Assemblymember Daly,

The California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) supports Assembly Bill 1993, The Family Caregiver Economic Security Act, as introduced on January 27, 2020.

Assembly Bill 1993 would amend state law to expand eligibility for Unemployment Insurance (UI) to include In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) and Waiver Personal Care Services (WPCS) providers who care for a spouse or a child. There are currently 118,000 parent and spouse providers in California, comprising 22% of the total IHSS workforce.

Under state tax guidance, IHSS and WPCS providers that perform care in the home for their child or spouse are not eligible for UI. These providers may become unemployed as a result of the death or institutionalization of their child or spouse. Because they are unable to collect UI, they face economic as well as emotional devastation.

As California faces a profound homecare workforce shortage, our state must do everything it can to support family caregivers. AB 1993 would provide much needed economic security for those who leave employment outside the home to care for their loved ones.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge your "Aye" vote on Assembly Bill 1993.

Sincerely,

**CHARLES BEAN** 

Charles Boan

**Executive Director** 

C: The Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Insurance Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager