



May 20, 2015

State Senator Ricardo Lara
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Support of SB 199

Honorable Senator Lara,

The California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) gives its full support to Senate Bill 199 (SB 199) as introduced by Senator Hall to add to the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS): reading services for blind and visually impaired recipients.

CICA is committed to improving and enhancing the lives of all those who use and provide In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS). CICA is a 501(3)(c) non-profit corporation and has a membership of 28 counties throughout California representing recipients and care providers who depend on long-term care services to remain in their own homes.

The IHSS program provides assistance to well over 460,000 seniors and people with disabilities to remain in their homes by providing care provider services related to domestic services, heavy cleaning, personal care services, and accompaniment by a provider when needed during necessary travel to health-related appointments or to alternative resource sites, maintaining an independent living arrangement. The addition of two-hours per month, for a recipient who is blind, of the assistance in reading and completing financial and other documents will benefit the recipient and allow for more participation in making personal decisions in managing their personal lives. This is a much needed task to be added to the IHSS program and its passage will be beneficial to many individuals throughout the State of California.

The California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance supports the addition of reading services to the IHSS program and encourages the passage of SB 199 as introduced by Senator Lara!

Respectfully,

Charles Bean

CHARLES BEAN
CICA Executive Director

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