

May 13, 2019

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4139
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 166 (Gabriel) Medi-Cal: Violence Prevention Services. - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Gabriel:

The County of Monterey is pleased to support your bill, AB 166 which would provide Medi-Cal coverage for violence prevention services.

While modern medicine has saved countless lives from violent injuries, most healthcare systems routinely fail to address violently injured patients' risk of re-injury and retaliation after these patients exit the hospital. Typically, patients are treated with great skill and care, but are then discharged back into the same conditions that led to their violent victimization in the first place. This creates a revolving door of violent injury and trauma centers too often see the same victims repeatedly.

Providing Medi-Cal coverage for violence prevention services will help expand utilization of Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs in California and would likely even result in cost savings to the state Medicaid program and to our justice system.

We are pleased to support AB 166 and thank you for your leadership on this important issue. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact Monterey County's Public Policy advisors, Jennifer Capitolo or Ashley Walker of Nossaman LLP at 916-442-8888.

Sincerely,

John M. Phillips
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Bill Monning
Senator Anna Caballero
Assemblymember Mark Stone
Assemblymember Robert Rivas
California State Association of Counties