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In memoriam
Dale Shimizu

January 16, 2015

Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Amendment to Motion to Consolidate Departments of Health Services (DHS), Mental Health (DMH) and Public Health (DPH)

Dear Supervisors:

On behalf of the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives, Inc. (CAADPE), Los Angeles County Chapter, I am writing to express our gratitude for your initial amendments to the January 13th motion to consolidate the Departments of Health Services (DHS), Mental Health (DMH) and Public Health (DPH).

As indicated in our letter dated January 9, 2015, CAADPE represents over 35 organizations providing vital health services throughout the County of Los Angeles. However, CAADPE also serves as an *advocate* for patients particularly those needing substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and mental health services. In this capacity, as CAADPE recommended, any movement potentially affecting the delivery of healthcare services to Los Angeles County residents necessitates a formal process that invites the public and stakeholders alike to provide their input. It is only through this open process that we can all work together toward achieving a more effective, patient-focused system of care.

As preparations begin in the development of an agency/structural proposal, CAADPE looks forward to participating and providing valuable information for your consideration. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at asenella@tarzanatc.org or by phone at (818)654-3815.

Respectfully,



Albert M. Senella
President

c: Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Health Deputies
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Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W., Director, Department of Mental Health
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