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January 10, 2020

Secretary Mark Ghaly, MD  
California Health and Human Services Agency  
1600 Ninth Street, Room 460  
Sacramento, California 95814

### **Re: Master Plan for Aging Proposed Agenda Priorities**

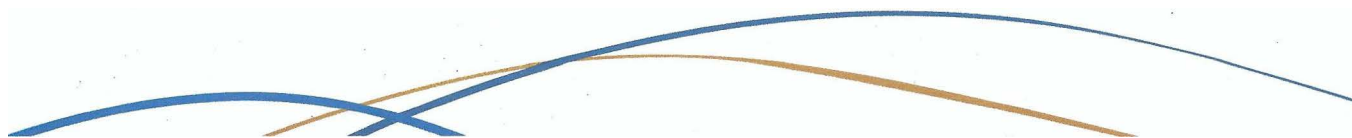
Dear Secretary Ghaly:

The State Independent Living Council (SILC) is appreciative of the opportunity to comment on the development of the Master Plan for Aging (and Disability) that Governor Newsom has prioritized. The Master Plan for Aging provides a tremendous opportunity for stakeholders and the SILC to work together to address the many important issues that impact the lives of people with disabilities and the aging population of the state.

The SILC has worked to identify a set of considerations that the Plan should address.

The Master Plan for Aging must:

- Address the disability population as well as the aging population within the State.
- Expand the definition of Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) to include non-emergency transportation, housing, assistive technology, and durable medical equipment.
- Address the Master Plan with a focus on equity, diversity, and inclusion. Certain communities are at an increased risk because of inequities they confront throughout their lives. Inequities and resulting disparities arise based on disability, race, gender, sexual identity, immigration status, language, and the environment in which people live. California's Master Plan for Aging must be centered on equity and must put forth policy solutions that address the fact that not all individuals age the same.



- Support and optimize the ability of Californian's who experience disabilities to live with dignity and independence and make decisions about their own care, by further integrating and coordinating California's health care and LTSS delivery systems.
- Ensure that Californian's and families can afford the costs of long-term care by supporting the development of a new model for financing LTSS coverage.
- Enable people with disabilities to maintain and secure housing and decrease the rate of adults with disabilities experiencing homelessness by developing strategies to increase the availability of affordable accessible housing.

We look forward to continuing to contribute to this important process over the next year and thank you for the opportunity to contribute.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Carrie England at [carrie@calsilc.ca.gov](mailto:carrie@calsilc.ca.gov) or Peter Mendoza at [Peter@marincil.org](mailto:Peter@marincil.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P Mendoza".

Peter Mendoza, Chair

CC:  
Kim McCoy Wade, Acting Director, California Department of Aging