



OPPOSE BUDGET CUTS TO OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES

Date of Call to Action: May 27, 2020

California Governor Newsom introduced the revised 2020-21 State Budget this past week which includes significant budget cuts across the board due to the resulting recession from the current State of Emergency. Additionally, California is anticipating an increase in individuals enrolled in the Medi-Cal healthcare system of up to two million persons. As such, the Governor has included a proposal to eliminate the coverage of adult occupational therapy services under Medi-Cal services. Other services being eliminated or modified in this proposal include dental services, audiology services, speech therapy, physical therapy, podiatric services, optometric and optician/optical lab services, diabetes prevention programs, and screening, brief intervention, referral to treatments for opioids and other drugs.

OTAC strongly opposes this budget proposal and urges our members to take action *now*. These cuts may significantly reduce the access to covered occupational therapy services under the Medi-Cal healthcare system for adults of all ages at a time when access to essential healthcare services is imperative. It is vital that all members reach out to their own Assemblymember and Senator as well as the members on the Budget subcommittees listed below. Identify your personal Assemblymember and Senator at www.findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov and submit via their websites. If your Assemblymember and/or Senator is listed below, please note in your letter that you are their constituent.

Please use the template letter provided here, filling in the italicized portions, and submit your letter using the links below.

Please also copy OTAC at execdir@otaonline.org.

Questions? Email the OTAC Advocacy and Government Affairs Chair Lauren Lopez, OTD, OTR/L.

Governor - Gavin Newsom - <https://govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail/>

Senate Subcommittee 3 Members

Richard Pan - Senator.Pan@sen.ca.gov

Melissa Hurtado - Senator.Hurtado@sen.ca.gov

Melissa Melendez - Senator. Melendez@sen.ca.gov

Senate Pro Tem - Toni Atkins - Senator.Atkins@sen.ca.gov

Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee Members

Holly Mitchell - Senator.Mitchell@sen.ca.gov

Jim Nielsen - Senator.Nielsen@sen.ca.gov

Jim Beall - Senator.Beall@sen.ca.gov

Anna Caballero - Senator Caballero@sen.ca.gov



Brian Dahle - Senator.Dahle@sen.ca.gov
Maria Elena Durazo - Senator.Durazo@sen.ca.gov
Connie Leyva - Senator.Leyva@sen.ca.gov
Mike McGuire - Senator.McGuire@sen.ca.gov
Bill Monning - Senator.Monning@sen.ca.gov
John Moorlach - Senator.Moorlach@sen.ca.gov
Mike Morrell - Senator.Morrell@sen.ca.gov
Richard Roth - Senator.Roth@sen.ca.gov
Nancy Skinner - Senator.Skinner@sen.ca.gov
Henry Stern - Senator.Stern@sen.ca.gov
Bob Wieckowski - Senator.Wieckowski@sen.ca.gov

Senate Budget Sub Committee - SBUD.Committee@senate.ca.gov

Scott Ogus (consultant) - scott.ogus@sen.ca.gov
Dr. Renita Polk (consultant) - renita.polk@sen.ca.gov

Assembly Budget Committee

Philip Y. Ting (Chair) - Assemblymember.Ting@asm.ca.gov
Jay Obernolte (Vice Chair) - Assemblymember.Obernolte@asm.ca.gov

Assembly Subcommittee 1

Joaquin Arambula - Assemblymember.Arambula@asm.ca.gov
Jim Frazier - Assemblymember.Frazier@asm.ca.gov
Devon J. Mathis - Assemblymember.Mathis@asm.ca.gov
Jim Patterson - Assemblymember.Patterson@asm.ca.gov
James C. Ramos - Assemblymember.Ramos@asm.ca.gov
Blanca E. Rubio - Assemblymember.Rubio@asm.ca.gov
Jim Wood - Assemblymember.Wood@asm.ca.gov

END