



COUNTY OF YOLO

Board of Supervisors

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County Administrator, **Patrick S. Blacklock**
Deputy Clerk of the Board, **Julie Dachtler**

March 23, 2018

The Honorable Robert Hertzberg
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 931 (Hertzberg)- SUPPORT

Dear Senator Hertzberg:

At the request of the Yolo County Public Defender and the Yolo County Public Guardian, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors supports your SB 931 which would expand the authority to recommend conservatorship for a gravely disabled person to include a professional person in charge of providing mental health treatment at a county jail.

Under current law, jail mental health care providers do not have the authority to recommend conservatorship. The criminal justice and county jail systems are increasingly involved with individuals who cannot care for themselves due to a variety of mental health issues. When jail mental healthcare providers lack the authority to recommend conservatorship, such individuals are released back into the community often to their detriment. SB 931 will help prevent this unfortunate cycle and better ensure that those individuals who would benefit from conservatorship can receive such services sooner.

Thank you for your leadership in authoring this important legislation. SB 931 will help break the unfortunate pattern of gravely disabled individuals who are unable to care for themselves from cycling through the justice system and back into the community without proper or sufficient care. Please contact Alexander Tengolics in the County Administrator's Office at (530) 666-8068 or alexander.tengolics@yolocounty.org with any questions about the County's position.

Sincerely,

Oscar Villegas
Chair, Yolo County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Bill Dodd
The Honorable Richard Pan
The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
The Honorable Kevin McCarty
Senate Public Safety Committee