

## **Written Comment for 5/5/2026 Yolo County Board of Supervisors Meeting**

Agenda Item #29

To the Honorable Members of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors,

Our names are Janet Palomino, Olivia Ezrre, and Jessica Hayes, and we are Office Support Specialists who work for Child Welfare Services with the Child, Youth and Family Branch of the Health and Human Services Agency. Specifically, our position of Court OSS can be found listed as one of the proposed position reductions outlined in Attachment E for Agenda item #25 of the 4/28/2026 Board meeting agenda.

Our position is just one of the 14 Child Welfare Services (CWS) support staff positions that are found on this reduction proposal. These are not simply support positions on a spreadsheet. In CWS, support staff are a critical part of ensuring that reports, court documentation, case processing, and time-sensitive tasks are completed accurately and efficiently. If these positions are eliminated, those responsibilities will not disappear – they will shift to social workers who are already carrying demanding caseloads. At the same time, due to funding cuts, we are facing severe reductions to community programs and preventative services, which will likely increase strain on CWS and lead to higher caseloads. Reducing support staff while increasing system demand creates serious risks to efficiency, case timeliness, and ultimately the safety and well-being of Yolo County's children.

We respectfully urge the Board to reconsider this proposal and fully evaluate alternative solutions. If options such as furloughs and retirement incentives were considered and dismissed, where is the data supporting those decisions? Were remote work options for non-public facing positions considered? If remote work was supported, are there buildings the agency could sell/leases to consider terminating to free up funding? If these support staff positions are eliminated and responsibilities are shifted to the Social Workers, this would drastically increase already impacted overtime hours, was this considered? We are asking for transparency and supporting data regarding any alternative solutions.

As you are making these decisions, we urge the Board to recognize the real people who fill these roles, as well as the very real impact these reductions could have on the children and families we serve. County employees are already feeling the strain of the current budget challenges and uncertainty. Adding large scale position reductions on top of that further impacts morale and increases the risk of burnout and turnover, which ultimately affects the quality and stability of services provided to Yolo County families.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Janet Palomino  
Olivia Ezrre  
Jessica Hayes