CSAC Poverty Working Group 2015
Wednesday, April 22, 2015 · 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Via Conference Call
Dial In: (800) 867-2581 · Passcode: 7500559#

Supervisor Kathy Long, Ventura County, Co-Chair
Supervisor Leticia Perez, Kern County, Co-Chair
Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County, Co-Chair

9:00 a.m.	**I.**	**Welcome and Introductions** *Supervisors Long, Perez, and Adams*
9:05 – 9:20 a.m. **ACTION ITEM**	**II.**	**Proposed CSAC Poverty Policy** *Farrah McDaid Ting, Legislative Representative* *Michelle Gibbons, Legislative Analyst*
9:20 – 9:55 a.m.	**III.**	**County-Led Poverty Efforts: Current Case Studies** Kern County *Leticia Perez, Supervisor* Solano County *Stephan Betz, Deputy Director* *Solano County Health and Social Services* Ventura County *Barry Zimmerman, Director* *Ventura County Human Services Agency and* *President, County Welfare Directors Association* ***Q&A***
9:55 – 10:00	**IV.**	**Next Steps**
10:00 a.m.	**V.**	**Adjournment**

NOTES:
For those who wish to attend the meeting, it will be held in CSAC's newest small conference room on the 2nd floor of the CSAC building (1100 K Street, Sacramento).

Conference Call Etiquette

1. Place your line on **mute** at all times until you wish to participate in the conversation.
2. **DO NOT PLACE THE LINE ON HOLD.**
3. Please identify yourself when speaking.

April 21, 2015

To: CSAC 2015 Poverty Working Group Members

From: Farrah McDaid Ting, Legislative Representative
           Michelle Gibbons, Legislative Analyst

Re: **Poverty Platform Language – ACTION ITEM**

Background. The CSAC Executive Committee directed CSAC staff to convene a Poverty Working Group (PWG) in 2015 to examine ways in which counties can have an impact on poverty in our communities.

During the initial March 26 convening of the PWG, CSAC staff presented a draft poverty plank for discussion and proposed to add it to the CSAC platform. Staff updated the plank based on feedback from the PWG and counties as attached. The revisions are displayed in track changes for your review.

Process. Any action taken by the PWG will be forwarded to the CSAC Health and Human Services Policy Committee for review and action. Should the HHS policy committee approve the draft language, it will then be taken up by the full CSAC Board of Directors or Executive Committee – depending on which body's meeting date arrives first.

Platform Language Process. Every two years, the CSAC Board of Directors adopts the CSAC Platform. The approved plank will be included in the 2015-16 CSAC Platform to guide the Association's policy work on poverty issues through the two-year legislative session.

Staff Recommendation: CSAC staff recommends approval of the attached proposed poverty platform plank by the CSAC Poverty Working Group.

Attachments:
DRAFT Proposed CSAC Poverty Platform Language

Staff Contacts:
Farrah McDaid Ting can be reached at (916) 327-7500 Ext. 559 or fmcdaid@counties.org.
Michelle Gibbons can be reached at (916) 327-7500 Ext. 524 or mgibbons@counties.org.

DRAFT

Draft 2.0
Incorporates comments received from the Poverty Working Group and Counties.

(Proposed) POVERTY PLATFORM

The California State Association of Counties affirms that California's counties are the front line of human assistance systems, serving as the community's link between state and federal policies and the delivery of critical poverty reduction services.

Poverty is influenced by a disparate but connected set of factors, including but not limited to: a lack of sufficient income, geographic challenges, employment and economic climate, availability of supports and services, availability of stable and permanent housing, education resources, lack of transportation systems, complex state and federal regulation, access to health care, health disparities, and access to quality child care.

Counties recognize that poverty may be influenced by international, national, and state economic factors outside of local control, but note that any period in which poverty increases results in a pernicious cycle of rising caseloads and needs while revenues at the county level decrease.

Counties must have the local administrative flexibility and resources to meet federal and state standards, while also meeting the unique needs of their residents. Counties recognize that poverty impacts other levels of local government, including schools and cities, and encourage working collaboratively to serve all residents. Counties must also be partners in the design and reform of programs intended that focus on the whole person/family as the starting point for customizing services in order to address poverty in our communities.