



April 12, 2007

Honorable Ed Hernandez, Chair  
Assembly Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee  
State Capitol, Room 4112  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1296 – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Hernandez:

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, which represents over 2,800 rank and file Deputy Sheriffs, Deputy Probation Officers, Deputy Correctional Officers, District Attorney Investigators, and Deputy Coroners – the entire law enforcement team in Riverside County – supports Assembly Bill 1296 to require a health benefit plan under contract with CalPERS to disclose the cost, utilization, and actual provider's claim payments on behalf of each member to the CalPERS Board, and to deem this information confidential.

The skyrocketing cost of health care has become a growing problem for employees, employers, and retirees. One way to control costs is to improve data collection and evaluate data to insure that charges are appropriate and fair. CalPERS is the second largest purchaser of health care in the United States, yet still is hindered in the collection of data. Health care providers claim confidentiality or otherwise refuse to provide the data needed to adequately evaluate health care costs and insure cost containment.

AB 1296 would protect the confidentiality of data, but still allow CalPERS access to data in order to properly represent employers and employees and provide quality care at a fair rate.

Please vote "AYE" on this measure when it comes before your committee.

Very truly yours,

Pat McNamara  
President

Timothy H. B. Yaryan  
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

cc: Assemblymember Alberto Torrico

Karon Green, Chief Consultant, Assembly PER&SS Committee