



## **LeadingAge California Issues Statement on Proposed Cuts to Older Adult Programs in the May Revision**

California Governor Gavin Newsom has released the May Revision proposal for the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget. According to the Governor's Office, the proposal seeks to address a remaining \$27.6 billion budget shortfall for this year and a projected \$28.4 billion deficit for next year. Meghan Rose, General Counsel and Chief Government Affairs Officer of LeadingAge California, issued the following statement in response to this year's proposed budget:

*"While we understand that drastic measures must be taken to address state budget shortfalls, we are disheartened to see that many of the Governor's proposed spending cuts are targeted at programs directly serving older adults. Older adults remain the fastest growing demographic in our population of Californians experiencing homelessness, yet programs such as Home Safe, the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program and the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Grant Program are facing drastic cuts. We cannot end homelessness without housing. While we are pleased to see the Governor has proposed to renew the State's annual investment in the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program, drastic cuts are proposed for other housing programs, such as the Multifamily Housing Program, which serve as critical gap funding opportunities for affordable housing developments.*

*The May Revision is proposing to eliminate \$820 million in health care workforce development funding. Given our nation's growing shortage of caregivers, cuts to health care workforce training programs will further exacerbate barriers that older Californians face when attempting to access long-term services and supports. We are also deeply concerned about the proposed elimination of the recent In-Home Supportive Services expansion to serve undocumented Californians, as well as the proposed delay of the implementation of the Medi-Cal Share of Cost reform. Further, proposed cuts to the Older Californians Act will eliminate funding for nutrition programs serving thousands of older adults and will result in increased food insecurity in many communities.*

*We know that tough decisions must be made, and we respectfully ask that the most severe cuts not be made on the backs of our most vulnerable citizens. We look forward to working with the Governor and Legislature to identify a more reasonable approach to a balanced budget."*

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*[LeadingAge California](#) represents California's broadest spectrum of nonprofit providers of older adult living and care, serving hundreds of thousands of older adults and nearly 800 providers of care. It launched the [Age On. Rage On.](#) campaign to spotlight the urgent need to develop a Master Plan for Aging in California.*