

The Board of Supervisors

County Administration Building
651 Pine Street, Room 106
Martinez, California 94553

John Gioia, 1st District
Candace Andersen, 2nd District
Diane Burgis, 3rd District
Ken Carlson, 4th District
Federal D. Glover, 5th District

March 8, 2023

Honorable Buffy Wicks
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 540 – Social Service Transportation Improvement Act: coordinated transportation services agencies

Dear Assemblymember Wicks:

On behalf of Contra Costa County, I am writing to thank you for authoring Assembly Bill 540 - Social Service Transportation Improvement Act: coordinated transportation services agencies. This important bill will improve and expand mobility options for older and disabled Californians through strengthened policies and the addition of a much-needed revenue stream. The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors enthusiastically supports AB 540.

California's over-60 population is projected to grow faster than any other age group. In addition to this well-known increase in the older population, the disabled population is also growing due to public health factors. Combined, this rapidly growing population has unique mobility needs that our current transportation system is ill-equipped to meet and even less prepared in the future. After years of inactivity in this policy area your leadership gives us hope that our older and disabled residents will see vastly improved mobility options in the near future. AB 540's systematic, statewide implementation of coordinated transportation best practices is a sensible, common-sense approach to solving this longstanding issue.

Your efforts will bring desperately needed justice and equity to our transportation system. While the State makes much-needed investments in conventional transportation systems, roads, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, maintenance, fixed route transit, etc., systems for transporting older Californians and those with disabilities have stagnated.

We appreciate your leadership in improving our transportation system for *all* Californians. It is our hope that with the advances established in AB 540, the "*largest and most complex transportation system in the nation*" will include equitable transportation services for older and disabled Californians.

Sincerely,



John M. Gioia
Chair
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

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- Honorable Members of the Contra Costa County State Legislative Delegation
- Federal D. Glover, Chair - Contra Costa Transportation Authority
- Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
- Jesse Arreguin, Chair – Joint MTC/ABAG Leg. Committee c/o Georgia Gann Dohrmann
- Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee (CalHHS)
c/o Amanda Lawrence, California Department of Aging

Contra Costa County



Monica Nino
Clerk of the Board
and
County Administrator
(925) 655-2075