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Media Statement

Medically Fragile Seniors, Disabled Adults, Their Families And Californians Across the State Call on Gov. Brown to Sign Bills that Clarify Adult Day Health Care Transition

(Sacramento, CA) – Following is a statement from Lydia Missaelides, executive director of the California Association for Adult Day Services, regarding the adult day health care legislative package sent today to Gov. Jerry Brown:

“On behalf of the 37,000 medically fragile seniors and disabled adults that we serve, as well as their families, ADHC employees, and our communities across the state, we call on Gov. Brown to sign legislation that will preserve the infrastructure for adult day health care. We urge the Governor to act immediately to calm the anxieties of the thousands of patients and families who fear losing the critical medical care and emotional support they receive through adult day health care.

“We appreciate that the Legislature recognizes the cost-efficient and effective community-based health care provided through adult day health care. ADHC allows medically fragile seniors and disabled adults to stay in their own homes and out of costly hospital emergency rooms or expensive nursing homes. The Legislature in March promised that a final budget bill would provide funds to see adult day health care centers ‘keep their doors open. Assembly Member Bob Blumenfield has championed our cause and we thank him and his colleagues for sending Gov. Brown legislation to ensure the infrastructure for our innovative and effective adult day health care programs stays in place.”

According to Assembly Member Blumenfield’s office, the Legislature’s ADHC package includes:

- AB 96 creates a Keeping Adults Free from Institutions (KAFI) program to care for the most medically fragile adults currently served under ADHC. It will operate through licensed adult day health care centers to provide behavioral health and social services to ADHC patients with the greatest risk of transfer to high cost institutional care. KAFI was funded at \$85 million in the budget approved by the Legislature two weeks ago.
- SB 91 delinks the licensure of adult day health care centers from Medi-Cal certification. Consequently, ADHCs who operate independently of Medi-Cal, for private-pay patients, will be able to continue their operations.

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