

AB 2207 Support Letter

Please use your organization's letterhead and ensure all fields are filled and highlights are deleted before sending to the Advocacy Portal.

[DATE]

**THE HONORABLE DR. JASMEET BAINS, CHAIR
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON AGING AND LONG-TERM CARE**

Re: **ASSEMBLY BILL 2207 (REYES) – [YOUR ORGANIZATION]**

Dear Chair Lee,

I am writing on behalf of [YOUR ORGANIZATION] in support of AB 2207 (Reyes). [DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ORGANIZATION]. We stand in support of this bill, which would require the composition of specified advisory groups to include representation from a statewide state agency, program provider, or advocacy organization that serves or advocates on behalf of older adults.

In California, task forces, councils, commissions, and work groups provide the foundation for systemic change, giving individuals who represent larger groups a voice in their government. When these advisory groups are working properly, they allow citizens to influence decisions that shape the quality of life for the residents of our state. Appointees are responsible for advising and reviewing policy and developing recommendations to address the issues facing the groups they represent.

While the current authority for making appointments does not exclude representation by individuals who represent the needs or perspectives of older adults, it fails to recognize these individuals as a requirement. The lack of involvement denies the reality and viewpoint of the older adult stakeholders, which may have conflicting goals. Additionally, the absence of the representation of the older adult stakeholder may result in system goals being prioritized over the goals of older adults.

[Insert a paragraph describing why your organization is supporting this bill or use the paragraph below and insert your organization's name.]

California is changing, and it is aging. California's over-60 population is projected to diversify and grow faster than any other age group. By 2030, 10.8 million Californians will be older adults, making up one-quarter of the State's population. AB 2207 will improve outcomes by including people whose needs and life experiences are different from the majority. This will help policymakers understand situations from other positions and to consider others' beliefs, experiences, and perspectives. [YOUR ORGANIZATION] believes that AB 2207 will ensure the interests of older adults, as reflected by state agencies, providers, and advocacy organizations that represent them, are "at the table." This bill seeks to promote equity and inclusion, recognizing that no policy should be decided without the full and direct participation of members of the group(s) affected by that policy.

We urge your support as the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care.

Sincerely,

[Signature]