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California Commission on Aging Statement on HHS Restructuring

Sacramento, CA – In response to the restructuring announced by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on March 27, 2025, Dr. David Lindeman, Chair of the California Commission on Aging (CCoA), issued the following statement:

"The programs under the Administration for Community Living (ACL) are vital lifelines for older Californians and individuals with disabilities. These programs provide critical services that allow people to live independently, including caregiving support to help individuals age safely at home, Adult Day Programs that offer respite for family caregivers and deliver essential preventive care and nutrition, transportation services for medical appointments, protection from elder abuse, and assistance in connecting with needed services."

"Without these programs, our families, communities, and most importantly, vulnerable individuals, will suffer. The announced restructuring of HHS and the dissolution of ACL into broader HHS agencies is deeply concerning. ACL's mission—to maximize the independence, well-being, and health of older adults, people with disabilities across the lifespan—has never been more critical as the U.S. population ages rapidly."

"We call on HHS and federal leadership to ensure that these life-sustaining services remain intact, continue at current service levels, and that older adults and individuals with disabilities continue to receive the support they need to live with dignity and independence."