



CALIFORNIA STATE
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES



CSAC EXCESS
INSURANCE AUTHORITY



REGIONAL COUNCIL OF
RURAL COUNTIES



CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF JOINT
POWERS AUTHORITIES



CALIFORNIA COALITION
ON WORKERS'
COMPENSATION



ALPHA FUND

DATE: June 7, 2010

TO: The Honorable Jose Solorio
Chair, Assembly Insurance Committee
State Capitol, Room 2013
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Eraina Ortega, California State Association of Counties
Paul Smith, Regional Council of Rural Counties
Julianne Broyles, California Association of Joint Powers Authorities
Jason Schmelzer, California Coalition on Workers' Compensation
Michael Corbett, CSAC-Excess Insurance Authority
Amber Wiley, Alpha Fund

**Re: AJR 42 (Solorio) – Medicare Secondary Payer
Enhancement Act of 2010 – Support**

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC), the Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC), the California Association of Joint Powers Authorities (CAJPA), the California Coalition on Workers' Compensation (CCWC), the CSAC-Excess Insurance Authority (CSAC-EIA), and the Alpha Fund support your Assembly Joint Resolution 42.

This Resolution would express the Legislature's support for HR 4796, the Medicare Secondary Payer Enhancement Act (MSPEA), a bipartisan effort in Congress to allow parties to more quickly settle claims involving Medicare beneficiaries, to accurately determine the amount owed to Medicare, and to make prompt payment to the Medicare Trust. This legislation is in direct response to the difficulties in settling both liability and workers' compensation claims brought about by the current processes under the Medicare Secondary Payer program.

The expedited procedures in HR 4796 will help Medicare beneficiaries by providing them important information about potential Medicare Secondary Payer claims, and allowing them to more quickly, and with finality, settle claim they may have against third parties. HR 4796 will also help all parties navigate through this complex issue, ensuring that the Medicare Trust fund is timely and appropriately reimbursed and all interested parties are protected from the uncertainty currently surrounding the process. For these reasons, we are pleased to support AJR 42.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. Eraina Ortega (CSAC) may be reached at 650-8180, Paul Smith (RCRC) at 447-4806, Julianne Broyles (CAJPA) at 441-5050, Jason Schmelzer (CCWC) at 446-4656, Michael Corbett (CSAC-EIA) at 449-3936, and Amber Wiley (Alpha Fund) at 498-6233.

Mark Rakich, Consultant, Assembly Insurance Committee