

State of California HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY



November 7, 2007

KIMBERLY BELSHÉ
SECRETARY

Connie Conway
Chair
California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley
5010 N. Woodrow Avenue
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Aging

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Dear Connie:

Thank you for your October 8, 2007 letter regarding Assembly Bill (AB) 340.

Governor Schwarzenegger signed AB 340 into law on October 11, 2007, reflecting the Governor's priority to protect California's most vulnerable residents, including children in the foster care system. The pilot program established by AB 340 will support innovative approaches to providing foster youth with suitable and supportive family homes.

I appreciate your request for inclusion of a San Joaquin Valley county in the pilot program. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is responsible for AB 340 implementation. CDSS will select up to five participating counties using criteria developed in consultation with the County Welfare Director's Association of California (CWDA). In accordance with AB 340, CDSS will take into consideration the size and geographic location of the counties in an effort to promote diversity amongst the participating counties.

If you have additional questions regarding the pilot program, please contact Mary Ault, Deputy Director, CDSS Children and Family Services Division, at (916) 657-2614. Again, thank you for your letter, and for your work in furthering the San Joaquin Valley's economic development and quality of life.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kimberly Belshé in cursive.

KIMBERLY BELSHÉ
Secretary

Handwritten signature of Kimberly Belshé in cursive, with the word "Regards" written below it.

cc: John Wagner, Director, Department of Social Services