**Please send a support letter – On your letter head**

**Sample Support Letter – AB 980 (Kalra)**

**Send Email To:** David.Sforza@asm.ca.govor **By Fax To:** (916) 319-2193

**Send Copy To:** csend@cwda.org and Erika.salazar@asm.ca.gov

**Date \_\_\_\_Please Submit by March 18 or as soon as possible**

The Honorable Jim Frazier

Chair, Assembly Transportation Committee

State Capitol, Room 3091

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support AB 980 (Kalra) – Enhanced DMV Confidentiality Protection for Adult Protective Services Staff**

Dear Chairman Frazier:

**[Name of Your Organization]** urges your support for Assembly Bill 980 by Assembly Member Kalra, which adds Adult Protective Services social workers to the list of staff who can obtain enhanced confidentiality protections from the Department of Motor Vehicles.

In general, current state law makes confidential the home addresses of all individuals contained within DMV records. However, the law allows for disclosure to courts, law enforcement agencies, and other governmental agencies, along with limited disclosure to financial institutions, insurance companies, attorneys, vehicle manufacturers, and persons doing statistical research. Enhanced protection is available under Vehicle Code Section 1808.4 to 23 classes of persons whose jobs are particularly sensitive. This primarily includes law enforcement, along with child protective services workers and community care licensing staff. These individuals, along with their spouses and children, may request that their home addresses be held confidential by DMV. Under this enhanced confidentiality, the home addresses of these persons may only be disclosed to a court, a law enforcement agency, the State Board of Equalization (BOE); pursuant to a subpoena issued by a court in a civil or criminal case; or a governmental agency legally required to be furnished the information.

As the Adult Protective Services program has been implemented over the past two decades, and as our population ages, the level of crime perpetrated against elder and dependent adults has increased and the criminals have grown more sophisticated, encompassing financial abuse as well as physical abuse and neglect. A growing number of county APS staff have reported being harassed and followed by alleged perpetrators who are angry at their crimes being discovered and make the worker the target of their anger. In our county, for example [insert example of worker being harassed or intimidated, if you have one.]

Unfortunately, we expect crimes against elder and dependent adults to increase as the population grows. Ensuring the safety of our APS staff is critical so they can focus on doing their job: protecting our most vulnerable Californians. It is time for the protections afforded to child welfare staff and community care licensing staff, along with numerous other law enforcement entities, to be extended to the estimated 800 APS workers across the state. Ensuring their confidential information remains protected to the greatest extent possible requires only a small change to the law, but represents a huge step forward for the APS field.

For these reasons, [**Name of Your Organization**] supports AB 980 and respectfully requests your “Aye” vote.

Sincerely,

**Your Name and Title**

CC: Cathy Senderling-McDonald, County Welfare Directors Association of California (Sponsor)